

Country Contentments:

OR, THE

HUSBANDMANS RECREATIONS.


CONTAYNING THE WHOLSOME

Experiences in which any man ought to Recre-
ate himselfe, after the toyle of more serious businesse.

As namely, Hunting, Hawking, Coursing with
Greyhounds, and the lawes of the Lease, Shooting in
Longbow or Crosbow, Bowling, Tennis, Balloone. The
whole Art of Angling, and the use of the Fighting Cock.

By G. M.

The sixth Edition.

Newly Corrected, Enlarged, and adorned with many excellent
Additions, as may appeare by this marke, 



L O N D O N,

Printed by *William Wilson*, for *Iohn Harison*, in
St. Pauls Church-yard. 1649.



To the thrice Noble and vertuous Maintainer
and furtherer of all lawfull and worthy pleasures,
Sir THEODORE NEWTON, Knight.

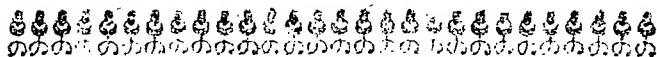
Sir, howsoever banished by the necessity of mine
affaires from your presence (in which I once
built the best and happiest estate of my life, be-
ginning to love it because I found you did employ
it,) yet can I never be separated from your re-
membrance, because it is all the joy which is
likely to live and dye with me; witnesse my soule
that shoves me no wordly lesson, so much as the
beneficiall favours I have reapt from your vertue, which to acknowledge
with a more earnest and serious fervency, I have sent this poore Book to
kisse your hand, and speake to you in plaine and short rules those speeches
which you have been willing to heare from my mouth, not doubting
but they shall give you satisfaction, and make mee live both with you,
and the inheritours of your vertues, to the last age. They are true and
easie, drawne from these last times, not borrowed to bestow with a
flattering insinuation, but faithfully drawn from Art, and from those
experiments which I once thought should have slept in the grave with
me: but having lived so long from your eyes (which I protest my soule
truly loves) I studied to thinke what gratefull Embassadour I might
send to speake I love you; and finding none which I thought you would
better heare than this, I furnisht him with the best instructions I could,
and sent him onely attired in his owne vertue, to tell you, what I doe,
and what I will doe, is, ever to live and dye at your Service.

Gervase Markham.

To the best disposed Readers.

MAny and sundry may bee the constructions and censures of this Booke (Courteous and well disposed Reader) because I have in former time written so largely of some part of the subject contained herein; but I would have no man mistaken in his own pre-judicate opinion, but truely understand, that this is neither epitomy, relation, extraction, nor repetition either of mine owne, or any other Author whatsoever, but a plaine forme of doing things by a neerer and more easie and safer way than ever hath hitherto bene discovered, drawn from the latest experiments in true Art, and finding a neerer way to our ends by many degrees: for what before could not bee done in divers yeares, here you shall see how to effect in few moneths, and what we bestowed moneths upon to seeke, now we may find in few weekes. The reasons which induc't me to this labour were these: First to give satisfaction to the friends and favorers of my former works, that when they heare men discourse of these passages to our delights, they may yet know that the first was neither ill nor vaine, but what now is derived from it, and that albeit we may be lesse curious, yet the curiosity is not altogether unprofitable, but both joyned together may make an absolute understanding. Then to give ease and light burthen to the heavy and duller memory, whom the tediousnesse of a great worke may discourage: and lastly, because my former labour is utterly out of print, whereby the Kingdome is deprived the benefit I intended, I thought good to have something living of lesse price, and as great (perhaps greater) profit, which should satisfie all vertuous minds in any thing required, within the compasse of those former shewed Recreations: not doubting but howsoever men may first give a light surway to these papers, yet if they once take paines to read them, they will after affirme them worthy of choice besomes. And with this settled resolution I leave them to thy view, and thee to thine owne rest.

Ever one, Gervase Markham.



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Country



COVNTREY.
CONTENTMENTS:
 OR,

The Husband-Mans Recreation : containing the wholesome Exercises, in which any man ought to Recreate himselfe, after the toyle of more serious businesse.

The first Booke.

CHAP. I.

Of Hunting, and of all the particular knowledges belonging there unto.



Having already in my former Worke of the *Engliss-Husband-man*, set forth in sufficient largenesse, the toile and industrious labours of the carefull *Husband-man*, and how both his minde and body ought in every season to be imployed, for the effecting and bringing forth of those wholesome profits, which God hath appointed for the maintenance of him, and his Family; And in the Booke last going before, called *Cheape and Good*, shewed the Cure and maintenance of his Cattle and creatures bred by him, and his labours, through Gods great Blessings;

The necessity
and use of re-
creation.

I thinke it not amisse here to speake of those lawfull and praise-worthy exercises or recreations, in which (with Gods feare, and care of not offending his neighbour) he may soberly spend those houres which he shall bestowe in the cheerful reviving and stirring up of his spirits, being formerly wearied or foredone with the heavy toyle of more unpleasant (though more profitable) studies, both because it is intended that a man so good & vertuous as the true *Husband-man* is, should not bee deprived any comfort, or felicity, which the earth, or the creatures of the earth can afford to him, being indeed the right Lord and Master (next under God) of them both; as also for the necessity thereof, being the strength and inabler of the minde, to undergoe the weightiest affaires that can any way poise, or beare downe imagination.

Hence it comes that the heathen Sages or wise men of the first world, founded with their Lawes, their feasts, with their *Labours*, their *Olimpicks*, and with their warfare, their *Triumphs*; nay, at this day wee see the severest pedants will give their schollers there play-day, and the most covetous masters will binde their hirelings but to certaine houres; every toyle exacting (as out of duty) some time for recreation: neither was there any *Stoicke* found so cruell, either to himselfe or nature, but at sometime or other he would unbend his minde, & give it liberty to stray into some more pleasant walkes, then the myry wayes of his owne wilfull resolutions. As I have observed in the course of many men of exceeding strickt lives, to whom all-be severity of profession, infirmity of body, and age, or such like, have taken away all actuall recreation, yet have their mindes begot unto themselves some habites or customes of delight, which have in as large measure given them contentment,

ment, whether they were their owne, or borrowed, as if they had beene the sole Actors of the same.

But why wade I thus far in this untroubled streame? let it suffice then, that as Recreation is most necessary, so to none it is more due, then to the *Husband-man*: and herein you may not expect, that I will goe about to elect and prescribe what recreation he shall use, binding all men to one pleasure; God forbid, my purpose is meerly contrary: for I know in mens recreations, that nature taketh to her selfe an especiall prerogative, and what to one is most pleasant, to another is most offensive; some seeking to satisfie the minde, some the body, and some both, in a joynt motion.

I will therefore, as far as my skill and knowledge will extend, figure forth to the life every severall recreation, leaving no limbe or member imperfect, and then leave unto the choise of the *Husband-man*, that which shall best agree with his spirit, not doubting but as they are in themselves lawfull & modest, so he will use them according to the worthines of his owne and their vertues. Now for as much as these sports are many and divers, I think it not amisse to begin and give that recreation precedence of place, which in mine opinion (how ever it may be esteemed partial) doth many degrees goe before, & precede all other, as being most royall for the state-lines thereof, most artificiall for the wisdome & cunning thereof, and most manly & warlike for the use and indurance thereof. And this I hold to be the hunting of wild Beasts in generall: of which, as the Chases are many, so will I speake of them particularly in their proper places.

The praise of
Hunting.

But before I proceed any further I will tell you what *Hunting* is, and from the true definition thereof, make your way more easie and plaine into the hidden Art ^{ing is.}

of the same. *Hunting* is then a curious search or conquest of one Beast over another, pursued by a naturall instinct of enmity, and accomplished by the diversities and distinction of smells onely, wherein *Nature* equally dividing her cunning, giveth both to the offender, and offended, strange knowledge both of offence and safety. In this recreation is to bee seene the wonderfull power of God in his creatures, and how far rage and policie can prevaile against innocency & wisdom: But to proceed to my maine purpose, you shall understand that as the Chases are many which we daily hunt, as that of the *Stagge*, the *Buck*, the *Roe*, the *Hare*, the *Fox*, the *Badger*, the *Otter*, the *Boare*, the *Goate*, and such like, so the pursuers or conquerors of these chases (speaking of *Hunting* onely) are but one kinde of creatures, namely, *Hounds*. Now of these *hounds* there are divers kinds, as the *Slow-hound*, which is a large great dog, tall, and heavy, and are bred for the most part in the West countries of this Kingdome, as also in *Ches-shire* & *Lanca-shire*, and most woodland, and Mountanous Countreyes; then the middle siz'd dog, which is more fit for the Case, being of a more nimble composure, and are bred in *Worster shire*, *Bedford-shire*, & many other well mixt soiles where the Champaigne, and covert are of equall largeness; then the light, nimble, swift slender dog, which is bred in the North parts of this kingdome, as *Torke-shire*, *Cumberland*, *Northumberland*, and many other plain champaign countreyes: and lastly the little *Beagle*, which may be carried in a mans glove, and are bred in many countries for delight only, being of curious sents, and passing cunning in their hunting; for the most part tiring, (but feldome killing) the prey, except at some strange advantage.

These *hounds* are of divers colours, and according to
their

The diversitie
of Chases.

The diversitie
of hounds.

their colours, so we elect them for the Chase: as thus for example. The white hound, or the white with blacke spots, or the white with some few liver spots, are the most principal best to compose your Kennel of, and will indeede hunt any Chase exceeding well, especially the *Hare*, *Stagge*, *Bucke*, *Roe*, or *Otter*, for they will well endure both woods, and waters: yet if you demand which is the best, and most beautifull of all colours for the generall Kennell, then I answer the white with the blacke eares, and a blacke spot at the setting on of the taile, and are ever found both of good sent, and good condition. The blacke hound, the blacke tann'd, or he that is all liver-hewd, or the milke white, which is the true *Talbot*, are best for the string or lyam, for they doe delight most in blood, and have a naturall inclination to hunt dry-foot, and of these the largest is ever best, and most comely. The griffeld which are ever most commonly shag-haired, or any other colour, whether it be mixt, or unmixt, so it be shag-haired are the best verminers, and therefore are chosen to hunt the *Fox*, *Badger*, or any other hot sent: they are also exceeding good and cunning finders: and therefore of *Huntsmen* not thought amisse to have one or a couple in every Kennell.

For the shape of your *Hound*, it must be according to the climate where he is bred, and according to the naturall composition of his body, as thus, If you would choose a large, heavy, slow, true *Talbot*-like hound, you must choose him which hath a round, big, thick head, with a short nose, uprising, & large open nostrils, which shews that he is of a good and quick sent, his eares exceeding large, thin, and down hanging much lower then his chaps, and the flews of his upper lips almost two inches lower then his neither chaps, which shews a merry deepe

The shape and proportion of Hounds.

mouth, and a loud ringer, his backe strong and straight, yet rather rising, then inwardly yeelding, which shewes much toughnesse and indurance, his fillets would bee thick, and great, which approve a quicke gathering up of his legs without paine, his huckle bones round, and hidden, which shewes he will not tyer, his thighs round, and his hams straight, which shewes swiftnesse, his taile long, and rush growne, that is big at the setting on, and small downward, which shewes a perfect strong chine, and a good wind, the haire under his belly hard, & stiffe, which shewes willingnes and ability to endure labour in all weathers, and in all places, his legs large, and leane, which shewes nimblenes in leaping, or climbing, his foot round, high knuckled, and well clawd, with a dry hard soale, which shewes he will never surbait, and the generall compofure of his body, so just, and even, that no leuell may distinguish whether his hinder, or fore-part be the higher, all which shew him of much ability, and that in his labour he will seldome finde any annoyance: but if you will chuse a swift light *hound*, then must his head be more slender & his nose more long, his eares & fleshes more shallow, his backe broad, his belly gaunt, his taile small, his joynts long, his foot round, and his generall compofure much more slender, and Gray-hound-like: and thus in the generallity for the most part, and all your *Torke-shire* hounds, whose vertues I can praise no further then for sent and swiftnes, for to speake of their mouths, they have onely a little sharpe sweetnes like a ligge, but no depth or ground like more solemne musicke.

The compofiti-
on of kennells.

Now to speake of the composition of Kennels, though there is a most certaine knowne better-hood, yet it is to men like bewty, each allowing best of that which agrees with his owne affection: therefore when you intend to

set

set up a Kenell of *Hounds*, examine your fancy what bee the best pleasures you take in *Hounds*, whether it be cunning in *Hunting*, sweetnesse, loudnesse or deepnesse of crie, whether it be for the training of your horse, or else but meerely for the exercise of your owne body, being otherwise subject to grossenesse and infirmitie, if it bee for cunning *Hunting*, you shall breed your dogges from the slowest and largest of the Northern *hounds*, and the swiftest and slenderest of the West country *Hounds*, being both male, and female, approved to be stanch, faire, and even running, of perfect fine sent, and not given to lie off, or looke for advantages. These *hounds* will neither bee so exceeding slow, that you will waite many dayes without some fruit of your labour, nor so unnimble, that you shall need men to help them over every hedge, as I have many times seen to my much wonder, but having both strength and nimblenesse, will hold you in continuall delight and exercise: for these middle sized dogs are neither so swift that they will far out-runne the sent, and so fetch many tedious rings to recover it, nor so slow, that for want of speed they will lose the sent, and let it grow cold by their owne lasinesse, but being ever and anon upon it, bring the Chase to such a narrow exigent, that the poore Beast shall be forc'd to try al the skill nature or strength hath lent it to preserve life: and the *hounds* on the other side all their paines, and the *huntsmans* cunning, to undoe the intricate doubles, skippes, squats, & windings with which they shall be perplexed; and in this mediocrity of *hunting*, shall your eye (if the covert be not to extreme thick) take a perfect viewe of all the art and cunning in every passage, so that I conclude the middle sized hound, of good strength, sound mouth, and reasonable speed, which will make a horse

The middle
sized dog for
cunning.

gallop fast, and not runne, is the best for the true Art, and use of *Hunting*.

For sweetnesse
of cry.

If you would have your Kennell for sweetnesse of cry, then you must compound it of some large dogges, that have deepe solemne mouthes, and are swift in spending, which must as it were beare the base in the consort, then a double number of roaring, and loud ringing mouthes, which must beare the counter tenor, then some hollow plaine sweete mouthes, which must beare the meane or middle part: and so with these three parts of musicke you shall make your cry perfect: and heerein you shall observe that these *Hounds* thus mixt, doe run just and even together, and not hang off loose one from another, which is the vildest sight that may be; and you shall understand, that this composition is best to bee made of the swiftest & largest deep mouthed dog, the slowest middle sized dog, and the shortest legd slender dog, amongst these you cast in a couple or two of small singing Beagles, which as small trebles may warble amongst them: the cry will bee a great deale the more sweeter.

For lowdnesse
of cry.

If you would have your Kennell for loudnes of mouth you shall not then choose the hollow deepe mouth, but the loud clanging mouth, which spendeth freely, and sharply, and as it were redoubleth in the utterance: and if you mix with them the mouth that roareth, and the mouth that whineth, the cry will bee both the louder, and smarter; and these *Hounds* are for the most part of the middle size, neither extreme tall, nor extreme deepe flewed, such as for the most part your *Shrop shire*, & pure *Worster-shire* dogs are, and the more equally you compound these mouthes, having as many *Roarers*, as *Spenders*, and as many *whiners*, as of either, of
the

the other, the louder, and pleasanter your cry will be, especially if it be in sounding tall woods, or under the echo of Rocks.

If you would have your Kennell for depth of mouth, For deepnesse of cry. then you shall compound it of the largest dogges, which have the greatest mouthes, and deepest flews, such as your *West Countrie*, *Cheshire*, and *Lancashire* dogges are, and to five or sixe couple of base mouthes, you shall not adde above two couple of Counter-tenors, as many Meanes, and not above one couple of Roarers, which being heard but now and then, as at the opening or hitting of a sent, will give much sweetnesse to the solemnnes, and gravenesse of the cry, and the musick thereof, will bee much more delightfull to the eares of every beholder.

If you would have your Kennell for the trayning of For trayning of horses. your horse onely, labouring thereby to bring him to the full perfection of speed, truth, and toughnes, then you shall compound your Kennell of the lightest, nimblest and swiftest dogs, such as for the most part all your Northern *hounds* are, which running swiftly away with the Chase will draw your horse up to that extraordinary speed, that he will forget all ease or loitering, and acquaint him selfe daily with the violence of such exercise, being so familiar therewith, that in the end it will be lesse troublesome to him then a slow gallop, and hence it was and is that the North parts are so famous for the truth and swiftnesse of their horses above all other Countries in this Kingdome: for it is most certaine that their horses are not better bred there, then in other places, but their exercise is much stronger, and violent, through the naturall swiftnes of their *Hounds*, insomuch that unlesse a horse either out of nature or education, be brought

brought to a more then ordinary speed, it is impossible, that his Master should either see sport, or keep company with his companions.

A good caveat
for gentlemen.

Therefore I would have al young Gentlemen, which are addicted to the delight of *hunting* or Running horses, by all meanes to traine them up after the swiftest *hounds*: for it is the greatest deceite and cosenage a man can bestow upon himselfe, to do the contrary, as I have seene many times in mine owne experience, when a Gentleman who hath supposed his *hounds* to be swift, which indeed were but of a middle speed, and hath seene his Horse follow them all day lustily and strongly, in every Chase able to command the formost *hound* at his pleasure, he hath immediately in his owne judgement concluded his horse swift and matchable with the best, and from that opinion ingaged him against a knowne swift horse, for great summes of money, then when the day of triall hath beene come, the horse which had beene trained after slow dogs, comming to follow those that were indeed swift, hath bin drawne so farre beyond the usual manner of former exercise, that he hath given over the Chase before the day hath bin halfe spent.

This caveat I give for all mens instructions, because I have seene the losse which hath growne thereby. And now to returne to my purpose; your Kennell thus composed of the swiftest *hounds*, you shall as nigh as you can sort their mouthes into three equal parts of musicke, that is to say, *Base*, *Countertenor*, and *Meane*; the *Base* are those mouthes which are most deepe and solemne, and are spent out plaine and freely, without redoubling; the *Countertenor* are those which are most loud & ringing, whose sharpe sounds passe so swift, that they seeme to doole and make division; and the *Meane* are those
which

which are soft and sweet mouthes, that though plaine, and a little hollow, yet are spent smooth and freely, yet so distinctly that a man may count the notes as they open. Of these three sorts of mouthes if your Kennell be (as neere as you can) equally compound, you shall finde it most perfect and delectable: for though they have not the thunder and loudnesse of the great *dogges*, which may be compared to the high wind instruments, yet they will have the tunable sweetnesse of the best compounded consorts, and sure a man may finde as much Art and delight in a Lute, as in an Organ. But here me thinkes a too tender lover of a horse stands at my elbow, and puls me by the eare with this Objection, that to traine Horses after *Dogges* of this exceeding swiftnesse, will be a labour of that violence which a yong Horse will hardly endure: For first it will draw him so suddainely from his winde, that it will breed stopping in his body, and choaking up the passages of his breath, hazard the breaking of his Lungs, or the rimme of his belly, as hath bin many times seene in Horses of great metal: Next the horse being young, and unacquainted with exercise, it will breed in him a wearinesse and loathing of his labour, and nothing is well done, that is not done with delight: Lastly, the horse being foule of body, and unpurged, it may melt his grease too soone, strayne his sinewes and tender gristles too much, and breede many diseases, foule, and incurable, of which onely too violent Labour is the ground worke.

Objections against swift hounds.

To this objection I thus answere, that albeit the labor be for the time most violent, yet it is not of so long continuance as that which is more slow, and to run twelve score swiftly is not so painefull, as to walke twenty miles: for you must understand that these swift *hounds* out of their

The answer.

th: i: metall and swiftnesse do soone overshut and runne beyond the sent, and then retiring backe upon it againe, give the horse time to ease himself, & catch new breath, whereas the slower *dogges* carrying the sent ever before them, keep your horse to a continuall Labour, which is more painefull, and makes him a tough enduring Lackey, but not a most swift running Gentleman; besides, the many faults, castings about of the swift *dogges*, adde such a comfort unto the horse, who perceiveth the strength of his Labour to have no ease till he come up to those Faults, that he will out of the willingnesse of his owne nature, double his courage to pursue them most swiftly, seeing his ease is ever the greater, by how much hee keepeth ever neerer to the *hounds*; for the danger of bursting, melting his grease, and other infirmities, the discretion of the *Rider*, and skill of the *Keeper*, must prevent: of whose Offices I have written largely in former Chapters, in the Booke called *Cheape and Good*: for be assured, those dangers may happen as well after the slowest *dogges*, as the swiftest.

Correction of
swift hounds
hasts.

But to my purpose, since *hounds* are the subject of my discourse: You shal understand that these swift *hounds* are, as is before said, out of their hast, nimblenes, and metall, more subject to make defaults then other *hounds*, yet full as curious and good of sent as any other, as you shall perceive by the quicke knowledge and apprehension of their owne errors, casting about of themselves, and recovering the sent, and so going away with the same, before any *Huntsman* can come in to helpe them: yet I would wish every Gentleman-like *Husband-man*, in the composition of this *Kennell*, to have some staunch olde *dogges* amongst them, which running more soberly, yet close with them, may sit upon the sent, when they overshut

shut it, and so call them backe, and give them their losse without more trouble. Also I would have both in this Kennel, & every other, a couple at least of good finders, being *dogges staunch* of mouth, and not able to open except they lye upon a certaine trayle: for these will bee great furtherers of your sport, and make your younger *dogges* a great deale more mute and painefull.

You shall also in this and al other *kennels* have at least a couple of good high way *dogs*, that is to say, *Hounds* of such cunning and perfect sent, that they will hunt as well upon a drye, hard, high-way, (where you cannot pricke forth the passage of your Chase) as upon the freshest moulde, or will hunt as truely through flockes of sheep, or heards of beasts, as upon the grounds where few or no beasts come; these are called *Hounds* for the high-way, or guides of the *Kenne'*, and are exceeding necessary, and fit for all mens pleasure: for they take from the *Huntsman*, both sense of paine and anger.

Lastly, if you would compose a *kennell* onely for the exercise of your owne body, or maintenance of health, you shall first draw into your Consideration your owne ability, as whether you will make your exercise on foote, or horse backe. If your delight and ability draw you to hunt on foote, then I would wish you to compose your *kennell* of the biggest and slowest *dogges* you can get, respecting only cunning *hunting*, and depth of mouth, and this *kennell* you shall make so *staunch*, and obedient to your command, that when they are upon the hottest sent, or in the earnestnes of the chase, to step before them and cast your hunting pole but before their eyes, they shall suddainly stop, and hunt after you in full crye; with no more speede then it shall please you to leade them, and then when you please, to let them goe before you againe,

Of the high-way hounds.

The Kennell for exercise of body.

again, to passe away with the sent roundly and without stay.

This manner of *Hunting* will carry with it a two-fold delight, the one of injoying the musicke of their voyces, the other, the cunning of their noses: each striving to go before, yet none presuming without leave to goe before: by this rule you shall bring the hottest sent, and the coldest sent to one manner of swifnesse, and so neither offend your body with too much, nor too little exercise. But if you wil take your exercise on horsebacke, because infirmity will not let you runne afoote, then you shall compasse your *Kennell* of the slowest of middle sized *Hounds*, who shall have both good mouthes, & loud, and noses of most ready sent, and perfect hunting: and if you bring these hounds also to the former obedience of stopping, and hunting after you, it will bee exceeding good and delightfull, both to your eyes, and eares, and so bring your *Hounds* to temperance & coolenesse in *hunting*, that taking the frensie and greedinesse of hast from their minds, they wil make your sport much longer, and lesse weary then else it would be.

But some will answer me, that albeit they have infirmities, which detaines them from running a foote, or labouring like lackies or drudges, yet they can endure ordinary and orderly walking, such as shall be fit for any moderate exercise; and therefore they would hunt on foote: yet the great *Hound* they like not for two causes, first his chargeable and troublesome keeping, and next his noisomesse and pestering company in a house that is but streight, and of no more then of necessary use: To these I answer, that it is good for them to keepe the little small *Mitten-Beagle*, which may be companions for a *Ladies Kirtle*, and in the field will hunt as cunningly as a

ny Hound whatsoever, only their musicke is very small, like reeds, and their place like their body, only for exercise, and not for slaughter.

Having thus composed your *Kennel of Hounds* according to the humor of your own fancy and delight, it shal be meet then that you frame a *Kennel* or house to keepe them in, wherein they may lye drye, and have their food and other necessaries about them, without troubling your dwelling house, or giving offence by their greedynesse or ravening.

Of the hounds
Kennell.

This *Kennel* for *Hounds* would be placed a pretty distance from your dwelling house, near some river, pond, spring, or other fresh water: it would also stand against the side of some banke or hill, which looking directly against the East, the morning Sunne might rise upon the same, and not lose the sight of it till at least two or three houres after noone, which will bee a great refreshing and comfort unto the Hounds, which love naturally to stretch, trim, and picketh themselves in the Sunne: against the side of this hill, would be cut or digged divers large and broad seats one above another, containing at least five foot in breadth, and two foote and a halfe in height, which seates would bee either boarded, or wated with stakes and small wands on the sides to hold up the earth from falling, and also close boarded a loft, whereon you shall lay fresh and sweet straw for your dogs to lye upon, the number of these seates would bee according to the number of your Hounds, and the quallity of the earth in largenesse: over these seates would be made a close and well tyled Shed, open no way but upon the East, and in such manner that it may defend either all or most part of the seates from raine, winde, or any tempest: from the lowest part of these seats forward, you shall make a large
greene

The situation
of the kennell.

greene court, being either walled, paled, or otherwise very strongly fenced about, in which your Honnds may play, sport, scummer, and doe other offices of nature fit for their health: also in this court, in the most convenient corner of the same, you shall build a little house or Lodge, with a spacious and large Chimney in the same, wherein in the Winter time you shall allow fire, before which (your Dogges returned from hunting) may stretch, picke, dry and trim themselves, which is an exceeding comfort unto them, and will make them more strong and able to endure their labour, and also keepe them wonderfully well, both from the mangy, and other filthy diseases which proceed from colds taken after violent heating. In this Chimney your *Huntsman* shall have a large Cauldron, and other necessities, as Ladels, Skummers, and such like; for preparing and making ready of all such warme meate as you shall allow to them, which if it be sweet is called, Mang, if otherwise Carrion, or garbage: above this lower roome shall be your *Huntsmans* lodging, wherein he shall also keep his cooles, liams, collars, trashes, boxes, and pots, with salves and oyntments, for the cure of such infirmities as shall happen amongst them, and all other necessities any way belonging unto his Office. In an other part of the court, and neereft unto the house, you shall place troughs and tubs, some for their meate, and some for sweet Water; all which must be kept very neate and cleane; and Water must by no meanes at any time be wanting, yet oft renewed; and the vessels scoured for sweetnesse sake: for the *Huntsman* ought to hold it for a Rule, that nothing bringeth more health then cleannesse. Into this kennell, you shall by no meanes bring at any time Carrion, because it will make the place unsavory, and unfit for any

man

man of worth to looke into, and sure it ought to bee a place fit for every worthy eye.

Now your Kennell being thus orderly, and well Prepared, it is meete that I shew what meate is meetest for *Hounds*, how it shall be prepared, and how they shall be fed: first, then intending that I only speake of *hunting-hounds*, that is to say *hounds* which are in continuall use and action, you shall understand that in their dayes of rest, the strongest and lustiest meate you can give them both for raysing them up when they are low hunted, or for keeping them in strength when they have lust within them, is either horse-flesh newly slaine, and warme at the feeding, the intralls and garbage of Beasts (lungs onely excepted) or the heads, plucks, and bowels of sheepe, or generally any carrion which is not old, nor cold after the death. To feed them for perfectnes of *Hunting*, and to keep their sents fine, pure, and cleane, or to purge the stench of the carrion out of their noses, that thereby they may undergoe their worke with more cunning, the best food is to give them Mang, made either of ground Oates, Barley Meale Branne, or mil-dust well scalded and boyled together, or any of these two mixt together and scalded with beefe broath, or any other broath, in which flesh hath beene sodden, so as it be not to extreme salt.

Of feeding of
Hounds.

Now for the use and manner of feeding with these meats (as I said before) horse-flesh, garbage, and other carrion, is onely to breed strength, and lust in a *hound*, and is to be given onely when a *Hound* resteth; because the strength and smell of the same will so cloy and stop the *hounds* nostrils that he can hardly distinguish or undertake any finer sent, and so breed much hindrance to his *hunting*: Therefore you ought ever to feed your

Hounds at least the day before you hunt, if not more, with sweet meate.

Now for the manner of feeding with horse-flesh, or any other carrion, you shall be sure to have it a good distance from your Kennell, and so as it may be no annoyance either to your owne neighbours or travaillers in the high Way; then first before your *Hounds* touch it, with you knifetake off the skin, then open the body, take out the bowels and rip them, then if the body be more then either your *hounds* can, or must eate, take off a Legge, or a shoulder, or such part as you thinke fittest to preserve, and lay it by, then let your *Hounds* feed on the rest, till their bodies be wel filled: which done, draw your *hounds* home, and upon some stang for the purpose, carry with you that which you saved, which as soone as you have shut up your *hounds*, you shall beare to the River or fresh Water, and lay in the same untill you have occasion to use it: for it will keepe it sweet a weeke or more at least, if need require.

Now for feeding with Mang, or sweet meat, it would ever be done the day before you hunt, and as it is to be prepared in the Kennell, so you shall let them eate it in troughs, within the Kennell, for that wil make them take delight in the place, and this Mang must ever be given warme, and made somewhat thick, and if you white it over with Milke, or butter-milke, and if you cast into it chippings, crusts of bread, bones, broken meat, or scrapings of trenchers, it will be better, and they will eate it with more greedinesse.

Meate for fcke
and weake
hounds.

If you have *Hounds* that are poore, weake, or sickly, which you would suddainly recover & bring unto hunting: Then if you take sheepes heads woole and all, and hacke, hew, and bruise them in many peeces; then boile them

them with oatemeale, and penny-royal, and make strong pottage of the same, and give altogether warme to your sicke *hounds*, and it will suddainely recover them, if once in a Weeke also, you give them a full meale of warme horse-flesh, it is very soveraigne.

Now for the best times of feeding, it is held amongst all our best experienc't *Huntsmen*, to be in the dayes of rest earely in the morning before Sunne rise, and in the evening at Sunne set; But in the dayes of *Hunting*, you shall let them goe fasting out of the *Kennell*, and feede them as soone as you come home to the *Kennell*, or before in your way homeward, if you have any Horse-flesh, or other Carrion readily provided: otherwise with such meat as you have, so it will fill their bellies, for a *hound* by no meanes would bee pinched of his belly after his labour, and therefore be sure if your meat be corse to fill his guts well, if it be sweet, strong, and comfortable, then lesse will serve him.

Best houres of feeding.

A proportion of meate.

And here I thinke it meet to speake of a convenient proportion of Food, for the maintenance of a *Kennell* of good *Hounds*: Wherein you shall understand that three Bushels of Oates, or Barley meale, with halfe so much branne or Mildust, is a fit weekly proportion to keepe nine or ten couple of *hounds*; with a little helpe of horse-flesh, if the *Huntsmen* be any good husband, and painefull as he ought to be in finding out Horses, scraps, crusts, and bones, which almost abound in every mans house of any worth or reckoning: and by imploying that which is saved in the dayes of labour to increafe the proportion when need shall require: Many much large quantities I have knowne, and doe know allowed at this day in divers places: but I have held it abuse to the Master, and either a covetousnesse or negligence in the *Huntsmen*,

by whose unskilfull greedinesse, I have seene many tyred out of their pleasures: Therefore bee assured this quantity already named will fully suffice; nay, even to please a most wanton curiosity, and surely much lesse if a painefull *Huntsman* have the government: for I shall never see fairer, or better kept *hounds*, then I have seene maintained with halfe this proportion; but as I would not be too lavish in my directions, so I would much lesse be too strait handed; hoping that every man of honesty and trust will order his affaires with discretion.

Ordering of
Hounds after
Hunting.

Now for the ordering of your *hounds* after they have done hunting, you shall if you feed them abroad, or otherwise as soone as you bring them into the *Kennell*, wash all their feete either with a little warme butter and beere, Beefe broth, or water wherein *Mallows* and *net-tles* have beene boyled soft and tender; you shall picke every cley, and search the foot for thornes, stubs, or any other prickings; you shall looke that the straw whereon they lye, be sweet and fresh; and if it be in the strength of winter, after they are fed, you shall suffer them for an houre or two to beake and stretch themselves before the fire, ere they goe to lye downe for all night, and by no meanes trouble them as long as they licke, picke, or trim themselves; but that once finished, you shall force them from the fire, and make them find out their Lodgings.

CHAP. 2.

*The curing of all manner of infirmities in
Hounds.*

NExt unto these precepts, it is meete you be skilfull in curing of all the diseases in *hounds*, of which as there be many, so heere you shall partake many rules for the same, both perfect, and excellently approved by late experience,

experience. And first of all in as much as it is an infirmity of all other most generall, naturall, & as it were not to be divided from *dogs*: I will begin with the killing of fleas and lice, & such like vermine in *Hounds*, which proceeds from filthy keeping, rotten and moist lodging, and want of shifting of straw when it grows short by much lying on: if then your *Hound* be troubled with fleas or lice, you shal take Rue or Herb of grace foure or five handfull, and boyle it in a gallon of running water till a pottle bee full consumed, then straine it through a corse cloth, and put to it two ounces of strong Stavesaker beaten to powder, and being warme, bath your *Hound* therewith, and it will destroy them.

Of killing fleas
and lice.

If your *Hound* be troubled with wormes, which is very general amongst them, especially the young *hounds*, then you shall take a pint of new milke & mixe it with a good quantity of Brimstone, and so give it luke-warme unto the *Hound*, and it will not onely scowre away all manner of wormes, but all other filthinesse bred in the body of a *Hound*, either by labour or surfet.

To kill worms.

If your *Dogge* have been bitten by either Snake, Adder, or any other venomous thing, take the herb *Calamint*, and beate it in a mortar, with Turpentine and yellow waxe till it come to a salve, and then apply it to the sore and it will heale it: Also if you boile the herb in milke, and give the *Dogge* it to drinke, it will expell all inward poyson.

Biting with ven-
omous beasts.

If your *Hound* have been bitten with another madde *Dogge*, which is a disease exceeding dangerous and mortal, you shall presently wash the place so bitten with Sea water, or a very strong brine, and it will save and cure him, or else take the herb called *Tarrow*, and beate a handfull thereof in a mortar, with a handfull of wheate,

Biting with a
mad dog.

till it come to a salve, & then lay it to the sore, and it will heale it, and if you poure into his stomacke as much *Me-thridate* as a haseell nut, dissolved in sweet wine, and it will wonderfully scoure and preserve him from the infection of the inward poison.

Of a madde
dog and the
signes.

The infirmity of madnesse it selfe in *Dogs*, is common and oft to be seen, and though it be altogether incurable, yet if a man be experienced in the first signes or characters of madnesse, he may prevent divers mischiefes and most mortall evils, which insue for want of such knowledge, and albe he lose one *Dogge*, yet he may save all the rest: the first signes therefore to know when a *Dogge* is entring into this disease, is a melancholy separating himselfe from other *Dogges*, and walking up and downe alone, oft casting up his head into the wind, and looking upward, his taile at the setting on rising upward, and the rest hanging downe, his mouth will foame and be ful of flaver or white froth, as he runneth up and downe he will hastily snatch at every thing that he meeteth with, yet, but onely give one snatch and away, his eyes will be red and more fiery then other *Dogges*, and his breath will be strong and of a filthy savour, any of these signes when you shall perceive, you shall presently separate him from other *Dogges* and kill him, for unto the disease is no cure.

Of gauling.

If your *Hound* bee gauld, or his skinne torne in any part, you shall onely take *May* butter, yellow waxe, and a little unsleakt lime beaten together like a salve, and therewith annoint the sore place, and it is a present cure.

Of a tetter.

If your *Hound* (as they are much incident thereunto) have upon him any tetter or dry scab, you shall take of blacke inke, the iuice of mints, and vinegar, of each a like quantity, and mixe them together with the powder of brimstone

brimstone till it be thicke like a salve, and then annoint the tetter therewith till it bleed, and it will soone kill and cure it.

If your *Hound* be troubled with the itch, you shall take nerve-oyle and beat it with quicksilver til the quicksilver be kild, and the salve turned to a pale yellow colour: then with the same annoint the *Dog* before a good fire, and chafe it well against the haire, and it will cure him. For the it. h.

But if your *Hound* be troubled with the scabb or mangy, then you shall take a penny worth or two of the best gunpowder you can buy, and mixing it with very strong wine vinegar, make it thick like puddle: then with the same annoint all the places where he scratcheth till they bleed, and it will kill the mangie; there be others which use to cast their *dogges* into the Lime-pits of Tanners or Glovers, and force them to swim up and downe the same and it will kill the mangie, yet there must be a great care taken in putting the *dogges* in, lest doing it rashly, the Lime water get into their eies, which is very dangerous and will hazard their burning out. Of the mangy or scab.

If your *hound* shall receive any wound, whether it be with sharpe or blunt weapon, or any accident whatsoever, although his owne tongue be a soveraine salve, yet if it be in any part, where either hee can or cannot lick it, the best cure is to wash it with warme butter and vinegar mixt together, and then anoint it with a little Venice turpentine; but if it bee a hollow wound, and must of force be tented, then you shall either tent it with sweet butter & oatmeale, wrought together to a salve, or with yellow waxe and Deere-suet; there be some that will use for a tent a small candles end, and it is very good if the tallow be sweet; but if it bee putrified, Of wounds.

then it will poyson and corrupt the wound.

Of a canker in
the eare.

If your *hound* be troubled with a canker in his eares, which is a grieve much incident unto them; you shall first tent the hole if you find any, with dry corke, and after wash the sore with vinegar and Allome, mixt together, till the flesh looke raw, and after drie it with burnt Allome onely.

Of surbaiting.

If your *Hound* be surbaited, you shall wash his feete with butter and beere boiled together, and then bind to the soles of his feete young red nettles chopt very small, or beaten in a morter till they come to a salve.

Of Bruises.

For any manner of bruse which shall happen to your Hound, either by rush, spurne, stroke or otherwise, if it appeare and swell outwardly, you shall bath the place, with chicke-weed, and groundsal boiled in strong Ale dregs till they be soft, and will allay the swelling; but if the bruse be inward, then you shall with a horne give the *dogge* a pint of new milke, and a quarter of an ounce of *Sperma Cata* well mixt together, or for want of *Sperma Cata*, double so much stone pitch beaten to fine powder.

For the stone.

If your *Hound* be troubled with the stone or other filthy matter, which maketh him that he cannot pisse, you shall take the seeds of the herb *Granum solis*, or *Gromel*, and bruising them, give them to the *Hound* in halfe a pint of white wine.

For costivnesse

If your (*Hound* as it is very naturall to *dogges*) be so costive that he can by no meanes skummer, you shall first take a peece of a tallow candle, about three fingers in length, and thrust it a good way into the tuell of the *Hound*, and then hold downe his tayle hard a quarter of an houre or more, and then give it liberty, and when he hath emptied his belly, you shall give him to drinke five

or sixe spoonefull of Sallet oyle, and will clenſe him ſufficiently.

If your *Hound* be troubled with any diſeaſe in his ears, For any diſeaſe in the eares. whether it be a continuall running, or any other impoſtumatation, you ſhall take verdiuyce and chervile water, and mix them together, and each morning and evening, drop a ſpoonefull or two thereof into the *dogges* eares, and you ſhall finde it a preſent remedy.

If your *dogge* at any time be troubled with fore eyes, For fore eyes. of what nature or quality ſoever the grieve be, you ſhall take a leafe or two of ground ivie, and chewing it well in your mouth, and ſucking out the juyce ſpit the ſame into the *dogges* eyes morning and evening, and it will cure them; This ground ivie is a little round rough jagged leafe; and growes in the bottome of hedges.

If your Hound ſhall happen to breake a legge or any other bone, you ſhall firſt with your hand place it in his For broken bones. true place, and ſee that it ſtand ſtraight and even, then bath it in the warm oyle of ſwallows, or the oyle of mandrag apples, and wrappe it about two or three times, in a ſeare cloth made of yellow wax and Deere ſuet, which done ſplent it with flat ſplents of wood, and ſorole it with a ſtrong roler, and let it ſoreſt nine dayes at leaſt, before you unſplent it, but removenot the ſeare cloth for fifteene dayes, and you ſhall ſee the bone will knit ſtrongly and firmly.

CHAP. 3.

Of the breeding of all manner of Hounds.

HAVING thus paſſed over the election of *hounds*, compoſition of *Kennels*, dieting, & curing of all ſorts of diſeaſes, I hold it meeteſt now to follow with ſome ſhort precepts the breeding of *Hounds*, becauſe it is exceeding

ding hard, for any man to have a kennell of *hounds* from gift or purchase without much imperfection: for though one Friend give you a good *hound*, another sell you a good *hound*, yet how their goodnesse will agree when they run together, is very disputable; and truly unlesse your *hounds* have one speed, one tunablenesse of voyce, and one manner of *hunting*, your pastime will bee much disorderly, which there is no way to get so easily and truly, as by the breeding of your *hounds*, for one and the same birth produceth one and the same qualities, therefore having a *hound* & a bratch of that size, voice, speed, sent, proportion, and generall goodnesse which agreeth best with your owne nature and condition, you shal put them together to ingender and breed, either in *Ianuary*, *February*, or *March*, according as they shall grow proud, for those are the three most principall moneths in the yeare, for *hounds*, *bitches*, or *bratches*, to bee limed in, not but that the may conceive and bring forth as good *Whelpes* in other moneths; but because there will be much losse of time in the entring of them, for if a *bratch* be limed in *Ianuary*, shee will *Whelp* her Litter in *March*, and so they will be ready to enter in the first beginning of hunting-time: if she be Limed in *February* shee will whelp in *Aprill*, and if shee bee Limed in *March*, shee will whelp in *May* following, and in all thesethree Moneths there is not a dayes losse, for the entring of the whelpes, which is an especiall care to be observed of Huntsmen.

Hounds must
sute one ano-
ther.

The monethes
to breed in.

Vnder which
signes to bread.

Also if you shall let your *hounds* ingender in the three moneths aforesaid, you shall not forget to observe as neere as you can, that when you put the dog and bitch first together, the Moone bee either in the signe *Aquarius* or *Gemini*; for it is held amongst the best Huntsmen

of

of this Land, that the whelpes which are ingendred under those two signes, will never runne mad, and for the most part, the Litter will have at least double so many *dogge whelpes*, as *bitch whelpes*. When your *bratch* is neere whelping, or hath whelped; you shall separate her from other *bounds*, and have a private *kennell* for her, where shee may bee alone without company of other *bounds*, and you shall duely every night see her *kenneld*, in the same, that she may take acquaintance and delight therein, and when you feed her particularly, you shall feed her in that *kennel*, that taking a love thereto she may not seeke out other unfit and unwholsome places to whelp in: for where a *Bratch* first whelpeth her Litter, if they be removed, she will not leave carrying her whelps up & down, til she have found the same place again, or some other perhaps more unfit then the former, and such carriage of whelps by the Dam is very ill and dangerous: this *kennel* where your whelps shall remaine, shall not be kept close, but open, that the *bratch* may have liberty to goe up and downe after twenty foure houres space, which time she shall be kept very well, close, and warme, that she may performe the natural office of a Damme to her whelps.

Ordering of
Bitches after
Whelping.

You shall not suffer your Whelps to sucke above two moneths at the most, but then you shall Weane them, and if the house you keep be of great receite, and many Servants, you shall let your Cooke bring up your whelps, and your Dairy-maide your second best, and the rest you shall put forth amongst your Friends, or Tenants, according unto the love you possesse in the Country.

When to wean
Whelpes.

Now when your whelps are brought up, you shall not enter them into *hunting* before they be at least a year and halfe

When to enter
Whelpes.

halfe olde, as thus, if your Whelps where whelped in *March*, then you shall not enter them untill *September* come twelve moneths after: and if they were whelped in *April*, then you shall enter them in *October* come twelve moneths after: And so forth, for the rest of the moneths.

How to enter
Whelps.

Now for the manner of your entring of whelps, you shall draw them abroad in the pleasantest of the day, with the most staunch and best hunting *hounds* you have, leaving at home all babling and flying Curses, and if you can, you shall have your *hare* ready set before you come, (for the *hare* is the principall chase you can enter whelps upon) and then putting her from her forme, and viewing perfectly which way she taketh, after the sent is a little cooled, lay on your *hounds*, and give them all the advantages you can for the *hunting* of her, as by *winde*, *view*, *hallow*, or pricking her passage, and if they shall chance to kill her, you shall immediately take her from the *hounds*, and not suffer them to breake her, for it is an evill custome: but your selfe stripping away the skinne, shall cut her all to peeces, and give every part of her to your young whelps, which will breede in them great courage and delight in *hunting*.

Observations
in the entring
of whelps.

You shall observe in the entring of your young whelps, that they hunt faire and even, without advantage, or seeking any way to gaine their owne ease, as by lying off from the sent, thwarting, or crossing when they are behind to get even with the formost *hounds*: any of which when you shall perceive, you shall immediatly beat them in with your hunting-poale, and compell them to take the sent before them: also if any of them be giddy headed, and out of mettle will run before the other *hounds* cleane from the sent, in this case also you shall beat them soundly

soundly backe, and bring him back to the sent, and force him to take it with the rest of the *Kennell*. Also if any young *hound* will not strike upon a default, but run babbling away without the sent, drawing away the rest of the *Kennell* to follow him; in this case also you shall scourge him backe, and compell him to stand and labour upon the default, till some of the elder *hounas* undertake it, then you shall cherish all, both with *horne* and voyce into the Chase.

Lastly, if you finde that any of your young Whelpes trust more to his owne sent, then to the rest of his fellows, and so by that meanes hunteth at least twenty score sometimes behind the rest, making his defaults by his owne nose, and not their owne leading, yet hunteth very just and true: In this case you shall by no meanes overgoe, or over ride the Whelp, but give him all comfort and encouragement you can, and let him take his owne time and leisure, for use and experience will quickly make him skilfull, and the skill will soone carry him up, amongst his fellows, where he will soone become a principall Leader: and thus much for *Hounds*, and the composition of *Kennels*.

CHAP. 4.

Of all the severall Chases which Hounds are to hunt.

THete hath already (by many well experienced men) bin so much written of this Subject, that I know not well what to write, except I should in some sort repeate another mans tale: from which I am so far different (having vowed to my selfe, by no meanes to meddle with anything formerly written) that the strictest examiner whatsoever, shall not find me guilty of the least blemish therein.

therein, yet since I must necessarily in this case Write something, I will as briefly as I can set downe some materiall and special notes, and for the maine Substance, if they desire a long continued circumstance (though this is sufficient for any understanding wit) referre them unto old *Trisiram* Eooke, translated by Mr. *Turberville*, and such other Bookes, where they may find compleate satisfaction.

Of the Stagge
and his profits.

To speake then first of the *Stagge*, which is the most Princely and royall Chase of all Chases, and for whom indeede, this Art of *Hunting* was first found out, and invented, he is of all Beasts the goodliest, stateliest, and most manly, and for the use of Man the fullest both of outward and inward profit, as in his flesh for the nourishment of mans body, and in his other members for helpes in physicke, as the bone in his heart, which is Sovereaigne for all inward faint sicknesses, for poyson, the Plague, and hard Travaile in Women; his blood excellent for all kind of Fluxes, and to make the skin white and smooth; his pizel good for the Cholicke and bloody fluxe; His Horne a most Sovereaigne Cordiall against venome; his Suet good for swellings, Gouts, and Humors; and his skinne, which is ever a during and Gentlemanly cloathing: and of Stagges, the oldest and greatest is the best.

How to know
an Old Stagge.

The perfect signes to know an old *Stagge* by, are these; if when you take his view upon the ground, you see he hath a large foote, a thicke heele, and a deep printing, an open cleft, and a long space, then be assured he is olde, also if his legges be long, and his bone thicke, it shewes age, besides your old *Stag* doeth not over-reach when your younger *Deere* doth, also you shal know his age by his ordure, as thus, if it be printed (as it will bee
from

from *Iuly* to *August*) or writhen round, or flat, or broad, as it will be in *Iune*, and therewithal be grosse and fatty, then he is an old Stag, but if contrarily smal and dry, then he is but a young Deere; againe, you shal know his age by the tines of the hornes, for if he have ten, twelve or fourteene tines, hee is a Deere of reasonable age, but if the beame be thick, and great, then he is an old Deere, so if he carry but some sixe or eight tines, and a small beame, then he is a young Deere, and not above three or foure yeares old, for the red Deere is said the first year to have no head, the second but only daggers, and the third tines.

Stags yearly cast their heads in *March*, *April*, *May*, or *Iune*, and in no other months, according to the goodnesse of the soile wherein they feede, for the richest ground beareth ever the earliest Deere, and a Deere is never said to be in season, nor may he by good rule bee hunted till he have cast his head.

The cast of
Heads.

The principallest quality in a *Huntsman* is to know how and where to find a Deere, for if he be ignorant in their haunts, he may wander long, & lose much labour. Therefore he shal know that a red Deere naturally haunteth in *November* amongst Furies, Winnes, or thicke shrubs; In *December* amongst thick and strong woods; In *Ianuary* in Corne-fields of Wheat and Rie; In *February* and *March* amongst young and thick bushes; In *April* and *May* in Coppises and Springs; In *Iune* and *Iuly* in outwoods, and purlews which are neere unto greene Corne; and in *September* and *October*, after the first showers of raine, they go to Rut.

How to finde a
Deere

Now when the *Huntsman* will at any time search any of these places to finde his game, he must be carefull by no meanes to go downe, but up the winde, for a Deere is of most dainty sent, and upon the least fault wil fly and leave

leave his feed : therefore he must come charily and close-ly, with a quicke eare, and a ready eye.

Now for the best time to finde out your Game, is early, before Sunne rise, at which time the Deere go-eth to his food : from whence you shall watch unto his Leire, and having lodged him, you may returne home, and prepare all things for the dayes hunting : for be assured, except violently compeld, he will not stirre untill Evening.

The Hunting
of the Stagge.

Now for the maner of his hunting : you shall first cast off your finders, neere his place of lodging, & after they have hunted him about a ring or two, you shall cast in the rest of your *hounds*, and being in full cry and maine chase, you shall give him comfort both with Horne and Voyce, then as soone as you can possibly, you shall get sight of the Deere, and take what especiall notts or markes you can from him, so that as much as is possible you may know him from any other Deere, then at every default, as soone as the *hounds* are in cry againe, you shall make into the hunted Deere and viewe him, and if you finde it to be a fresh Deere, you shall rate the Dogs, and bring them backe to the default, and there make them cast about againe, untill they have undertaken the first hunted Deere, then give them comfort by hollowing and Gibelts, and so continue the chase till you have either set up the Deere or slaine him, ever and anon having a watchfull eye unto change, for it is the nature of a Deere, when he is once imboist, or weary, to seek where he may find another Deere, and to beate him up and lay himsele downe in his place.

To know when
a Stag is weary

To know when a Stagge is weary, you shall see him imboist, that is, foaming and flavering about the mowth with a thicke white froth, his haire will looke blacke, shi-
ning

ning and foule with sweat, and he will tappish oft, that is, he will ever and anon be lying down and lurking in darke holes and corners, and for his last Refuge he will berake himsele to the soile, which is, he will leape (if he can) into rivers, ponds, or other water, out of which you shall force him either by art or strength: And thus much for the Chase or hunting of the Stagge.

Now for the Hunting of the Bucke : forasmuch as Of the Bucke. they are most usually kept in Parkes, & that every Keeper, which is worthy to be a Keeper, may sooner from his own experience then from any Reading, get the experience of the ground he tendeth, and sith he is bound both by the Lawes of Hunts-men and good manners to give every man contentment that is priviledged to hunt in his ground : And sith whosoever can hunt a Stagge well, cannot hunt a Bucke ill, the red Deere being ever far more curious to hunt, then the Fallow, I will not spend any more time to write of it, but refer you to those Rules which are already Rehearsed.

Touching the hunting of the *Hare*, which is every honest mans, and good mans chase, and which indeed is the freest, readiest, and most induring pastime, and likewise in its own kind, full of good profit for mans Preservation. Of the Hare. For though the beast be but little, yet are the members worth injoyment, as the flesh, which is good for all manner of Fluxes ; the Braines good to make children breed their teeth with ease; the wooll excellent to stench bloud; the Gall soveraign for sore eyes; the bloud which will kill Rhume, and wormes ; the stifling bone, which being worne, taketh away the paine of the Cramp, with many other good things besides. Of her profits.

Touching the hunting of the *Hare*, you are first to regard the place of hunting, as whether it be in woods, or The hunting of the Hare.

D

Champaign :

champane; if in woods, you shall not cast off your *dogs* in the thickest of the covert, but rather beat the bush close, or shrubby ground neare adjoyning to the covert: for though in the woods you may sooner find a *hare*, yet commonly you shall finde such change therewithall, that you shall hardly bring any forth to west your pleasure, where on the contrary part, if you find any in those neighbouring grounds, she will presently fly foorth into the champane: because naturally a *hare* will refuse the covert, till she begin to be weary; and a *hare* being once heated, is not so easily lost upon a fresh change, as when the fents are of equall coolenes. If you hunt in the champane, you shall first beate those places which are most likely, as where Gorse or whinnes grow, or in grounds that are full of tuskes of rushes, short lingge, bramble bushes, or such like: or if the champane be more plaine and void of such places, then you shall at the beginning of the yeare repaire to the shrubs, about Christmas to the fallows, and in *March* to the greene Corne; for those are the most usuall haunts for the best *hares*, and in all these places you shall regard the *Forme*, or *Hares* seate well, and know whether it be old or new, as if the forme be plaine and smooth within, the padde before it flat and worne, and the prickes so new and easie to be seene that the earth appeare black, and as it were presently broken, then is the forme new, and if the *Hounds* call upon it, then may you hunt from thence, and upon the trayle recover that *Hare*: but if the forme looke old and rough within, and the padde it selfe be not smooth, nor any prickes to be discerned therein, then it is old, and if the *Hounds* call upon it, you shall rate them, for the sent is old and all the labour will be lost you spend upon it.

The next thing you observe must be the shifts and sleights

Where to find
Hares.

The knowledg
of the Hares
forme.

fleights of the *Hare*, when she is wearily hunted, as her dubblings and windings, and at every default give the *Hounds* leasure enough and compasse enough in the casting about of your rings for the unwinding of the same; then you shall observe her leapes and skippes before she squat, and beat all those places very curiously which are likely to give her any harbour, and though the losse seem never so dangerous, yet not to be discouraged but to continue your search, because when she commeth to those hard shifts shee is at the last cast and cannot stand long before the *Hounds*. Many other circumstances there are, but they are so generall known to almost every man that any way affecteth this pleasure, that it is needlesse to make further relation thereof; and therefore I hold this sufficient for the hunting of the *Hare*.

The hares
fleights and
shifts.

Now for the hunting of the *Fox* or *Badger*, they are chases of a great deale lesse use or cunning then any of the former, because they are of much hotter sent, as being intituled stinking sentes & not sweet sentes, and indeed very few *dogges* but will hunt them with all egerneesse; therefore I will not stand much upon them, but advise you to respect well their haunts and coverts, which commonly is in woods and bushy places, and to take knowledge of their earths, and Kennels, and as neere as you can when you goe about to hunt them, to stop up their Kennels, and keepe them out that sling forth, they may be the sooner brought to their destruction; the chase is profitable and pleasant for the time, insomuch as there are not so many defaults, but a continuing sport, yet not so much desired as the rest, because there is not so much art and cunning, and thus much for chases, and the generall use of all kind of Hunting.

The hunting of
the *Fox* or
Badger.

The end of Hunting.



Of Hawking,&c

CHAP. 5.

*Of the Hawking with all sorts of Hawkes, and
the whole Art thereof.*

Kindes of
Hawkes.



H your English Husband-man shall for his Recreation, chuse the pleasure of Hawking, which is a most Princely and serious delight; he shall understand that all Hawkes are divided into two kinds, the long winged Hawke, and the short: the long winged Hawkes which are meete for our Husbandmans Recreation, are the *Faulcon-gentle*, and her *Tercell*; the *Gerfaulcon* and her *Genkin*, the *Saker*, the *Lanner*, the *Barbary Faulcon*, the *Merlin*, and the *Hobby*: and the short-winged Hawkes are the *Goshawke*, the *Tercell* of the *Goshawk*, the *Sparrowhawk*, and the *Musket*.

The flight of
Hawkes.

The *Faulcon gentle*, which is the principle of Hawkes, may be made either for the field or river, & wil fly either at the Partridge or at the Mallard; the *Gerfaulcon* will fly at the Herron; the *Saker* at the Crane or Bitter; the *Lanner* wil flie at the Partridge, Pheasant, or Choffe; the *Barbary-faulcon* at the Partridge onely; the *Merlin* and the *Hobby* at the Partridge, Larke, or any small bird whatsoever: the *Goshawk*, or *Tercell* of *Goshawk* at the Partridge, Pheasant, or Hare; the *Sparrow-hawke* at the Patridge or Black bird, and the *Musket* at the Bush onely, and all these Hawkes are hardy, meeke, and loving to the man.

All Hawkes generally are manned after one manner, The manning of Hawkes. that is to say, by watching and keeping them from sleep, by a continuall carrying of them upon your fist, and by a most familiar stroaking and playing with them, with the Wing of a dead Foule or suchlike, and by often gazing and looking of them in the face, with a loving and gentle Countenance, and so making them acquainted with the man.

After your Hawks are manned, you shall bring them Of Luring Hawkes. to the Lure by easie degrees, as first making them jumpe unto the fist, after fall upon the Lure, then come to the voyce; and lastly, to know the voyce and Lure so perfectly, that either upon the sound of the one, or sight of the other, she will presently come in and be most obedient, which may easily be performed, by giving her reward when she doth your pleasure, and making her fast when she disobeyeth: short wing'd hawks shall be called to the fist only, and not to the Lure; neither shall you use unto them the loudnesse and variety of voyce, which you do to the long-winged hawks, but onely bring them to the fist by chirping your lips together, or else by the whistle: And in this manner of Luring and calling of hawkes, (for short-winged hawks are sayd to be called and not Lured) you shall specially acquaint your Hawke with three things : First bouldnesse and acquaintance with Men, Dogges, and Horses ; then that she be eager and sharpe set before the Lure be shewed her, knowing both the morning and evening houres of her luring; and lastly to delight her the more with the Lure, to have it ever garnished on both sides with warme and bloudy meate.

When your Hawkes are thoroughly manned and lured, and are come to height of flesh and good lust, you shall then spie out a faire day when the weather & aire The bathing of Hawkes. is most

is most temperate, and carry your Hawke to some faire little, shallow, sandy, running Brook, or Rundle where the water is quiet and still, and where your Hawke may stand up to the mid thigh therein, and having prickt her down and made her fast hard by the verdge thereof, you shall take off her hood and go a little way from her, and see where she will bath therein; but if you finde her fearfull of the water, you shall with a little sticke paddle in the water a while before her, and then depart from her againe, and let her then bath therein as long as shee pleaseth: this done, you shall take her upon your fist and give her a bit or two of meate, then hold her in the Sun, and let her pick, prune, and dry her selfe againe; if you cannot come to any River, Brook, or Rundle conveniently, then you shall provide either a large bason, or a broad shallow tub, and in it let your Hawke bathe as oft as occasion shall serve, for this bathing giveth a Hawke courage, bouldnesse and a great appetie, and would commonly be used the day or morning before any princely flight: If it be in the winter that your Hawke batheth, when no Sun shineth, you may then dry her as well by the gentle aire of the fire as otherwise.

Of enseaming,
giving casting
and scouring.

To enseame your Hawke, which is to cleanse her from grease, fat and glut which lieth inwardly in her body, and which you shall know by her round thighes, hie flesh, and full mewtings; then when you feed her in the morning, give her a bit or two of hot meate, and the night following little or nothing, then morning and evening after feed her upon the flesh of a Rooke washt in two waters, till you feele the pinions of her wings more tender then they were before, then give her casting according to her nature, as was before shewed, and once in two or three dayes give her a Hennes neck well joyn-

ted

ted and washt in water, which will by the sharpnes thereof breake the kells and filmes of fat which are in her body ; then every morning you shall give her a quicke traine Pidgeon, and keepe her so long upon her wing that by her owne moderate exercise, she may melt and dissolve the grease that molesteth her, which after it is broken you may take away, by giving her three or foure pellets of the roote of Sellandine, as bigge as garden pease, well washt and scowred, and if you steepe those pellets in the sirrup of Roses the scouring is much stronger.

When your Hawke is manned, lured, and enseamed, you shall then bring her to her flight, which if it be at the Pheasant or Partridge in woody and close grounds, then you shall when you lure the Hawke, cast your lure into some low Tree or Bush, that thereby you may bring her to take the stand, which when she doth you shall then draw out your lure, and giving her notice thereof, make her ceaze thereon, and ever feed her on the ground and under a bush, the practise whereof will bring her to delight in the stand, and to marke all the advantages which she shall get from thence, then bringing her to either Pheasant, or Partridge, make her fly at a young one first, that being more foolish and easier slain, she may take delight in her conquest. But if you fly any long-winged Hawke in the champaine, then you shall by all meanes possible keepe her from the stand, and onely maintaine her upon her wing till you spring the Partridge underneath her, and then stooping upon the advantage, the prey can hardly escape her, yet for the more sure killing of the game and entring of young Hawkes, you shall first spring the Partridge and marke them, then being come to the marke cast off your Hawk, and when she is gotten

Of flying at
the Pheasant
or Partridge.

to the height of her gate lay in your Spannels, & then retrieving the Partridge underneath her after the first flight it is impossible she should escape. And in this sort you may fly all manner of long-winged hawkes, for it is not so proper to fly them from the fist, although most of our late *Faulconers* now a dayes use it; but for your short-winged hawkes, you shall fly them from the fist onely: And therefore to make them hardy and valiant, you shall first enter them at an old field Partridge, laid in a hole, and covered either with a sodde, board, or hat, at which you shall fasten a small Creance, and then uncoupling your Spannels, as they are ranging about sodainely, when your Hawkes head is towards the Partridge, plucke off the sodde or hatte, and let the trainego, and the Hawke after it, which as soone as she hath slaine reward her very well, and thus doing twice or thrice you may after venture to flie her at your pleasure.

Of flying at
foules.

To make your Hawke fly at fowle, which is called the flight at the River, you shal first whistle off an approved well quarried Hawke that is a sure killer, and let her enew the foule so long till shee bring it to the plunge: then take her down and reward her, and set her by, yet so as you may have her ready to use at your pleasure: then whistle off your young hawke, & when she is at the height of her gate, and that you have shewed her water divers timesto make her the more inward, and by a gibbet cal'd her in, when at any time shee hath looked out, Then being just over the fowle, make in with all your company on every side the River, and so lay forth the fowle, which if your Hawke stoop, strike and trusse, you shall presently make into her, and helpe her, and then crossing the foules wings, or breaking them, let your
hawke.

Hawke take her pleasure thereon, but if she doe not slay the foule at the first stooping, then you shall give your Hawke pleasure to recover her gate againe, and then lay forth the foule as before, not leaving thus to do till you have landed it, and that the Hawke hath slaine it, and then reward her as before said: But if such a mischief shall fall out that the foule do scape and breake away: then you shall be sure to have a little Mallard ready in your bag; which you may cast forth, and so reward your hawke thereon.

If your long winked hawke flying at the River or in champane fields use to take stand which is a foule fault, you shall first by all meanes shun flying neere Trees or Covert: but if that do not suffice, then you shall have divers traines in divers mens hands: and when the hawke offers to go to the stand, let which is next her cast out his traine, and if she kill it, reward her: this doing once or twice will reclaime or nothing.

Helpes for faults in long winged hawks, and first of the stand.

If your hawke through pride of greafe or otherwise be froward and coy, you shall not when she kills reward her as you were wont, but conveying some other cold meat cunningly under her, let her take her pleasure thereon; and ever with the meate give her some feathers which may scower her and make her to cast; for this will recover her stomack, and make more carefull and diligent.

Against frowardnesse.

If your hawke be of a wilde and stirring nature, and will not looke inward towards the man with her head, but rake and gaze after every check, neither respecting whooping nor gibbeting, in this case you must follow her and lure her back, and as soone as she turneth in her head, shew her the Lure, to which if she stoope, then presently reward her, and thus do so oft as she rangeth

To make a hawk inward.

till

till she be brought unto that Love to your voyce and affection to the Lure, that she will forget her other extravagant thoughts.

To keepe a hawk in high flying.

When your Hawke is brought to flie to an extraordinary high pitch, to maintaine and keepe her in the same manner of flying still, you shall not flie her above one flight in the day at the most, for nothing bringeth her down more then over Wearinesse: Also you shall then not keepe too extreame a straight hand upon her, for the too much greedinesse of the Quarry makes her flake her flying. Also you shall not flye her upon Rundles, or small brookes, but upon plashes and broad Rivers, you shall not suffer her to flie too long, but after two or three stoopings, and a crossing, although she misse it, take her down with the Lure or traine, and reward her, for this encouragement will maintaine her in her goodnesse.

To bring hawkes upward.

If your Hawke be high flying, yet sloathfull to go to her Gatte, or else now and then stooping before there be cause, and so losing her Way, which many times happeneth when either the Hawke is kept too sharpe, or flowne out of her due time, any of which faulcs when you perceive, you shall then upon the doing thereof give her a dead Quarry, and then hood her up without Reward, and an houre or two after call her to the Lure, and feed her: and thus do as oft as she offendeth; yet for the more sure prevention thereof, I would have every *Faulconer* to try the naturall disposition of his Hawke, and finde whether she flyeth better on a strait hand, or an open, and whether early or late, and so forth, and according to her own nature ever to keep her.

Short winged Hawkes as *Goshawkes*, & *Sparrow-hawks*, will many times neither kill their Game, nor flie their

Game

Game to marke, but will give it over after a little flying, and (as *Faulconers* terme it) turne taile unto it, which when you see, you shall encourage your Dogges to hunt and cast before your Hawke a traine Partridge, as it were the Wild one, and make her ceaze it, and feed well upon it, to incourage her the better ; and thus do twice, or thrice, which if you see it prevaile not, then esteeme her not, but make her away, for she will hardly ever be Re-claimed.

Faults in short winged hawks, first of turning taile.

Hawkes that have never been acquainted with prey, will many times not fly at all ; but taking a Tree, will sit and look after the game, which fault to amend, you shall ever feed her upon quick Birds, and make her foote them, and then going into the field, which is Champane and plaine, after you have Rid up and downe a pretty space with the Hawk unhooded, you shall cause one of your company to cast out a field Partridge before your Hawke : Then let her flie at it, and so soone as she hath footed it, let her feed thereon at her pleasure, and do thus three or foure times till she be well in blood, and you shall find her valiant quickly.

If a Hawke will not fly at all.

If you hawke be so fond of the man, that she will not flie from him, but after a stroke or two, returne to him againe: you must then but seldome be familiar with her, and let her rather feed her selfe then be fed by you, and as oft as she commeth so improperly unto you, you shall give her no Reward, but when she forsaketh you and killeth the Game, then you shall well Reward her, and then make her both familiar with Men, Dogges, and Horses, for to take toy or dislike to any of them, is a mischief a great deale worse then the former.

To much fondnes of the man.

To speake of the Mewing of long winged Hawkes, you shall understand that shee may be set downe, that is, put

Mewing of
long winged
hawkes.

put into the Mew about the middle of *Aprill*, at which time if you finde they have any lice you shall pepper them, and put them into the Mew, which if it be a low place upon the ground free from noise, vermine, or any evill aire, then it is called mewing/ at the stone or stock; but if you mew in any high roome with open windowes towards the *North*, or *North-east*, then it is called mewing at large: If you mew at the stock, you shall have a broad Table in the midst of the Roome, on which you must place sand, gravell, stones, fods, and tubs for water, and in the midst of these a free-stone or block of two foote high, to which you shall fasten your hawke with a turuell of iron, so that at no time her leafe may be intangled; this manner of mewing may be in the *Faulconers* owne bed-chamber, or in any other safe Roome at his pleasure, the best meate in the Mew is any quick birds or foule, dogs flesh and such like: If you mew your hawke at large you shall put her loose into the mew, having sundry perchcs therein, some high some low for her use to sit on; and in this mew also you shall have sand, stones, gravell, greene fods and water, all which you shall renew as oft as neede doe require, and in the midst of them a block or two whereon to tie her meate, which meate shall be the same formerly spoke of and given at certaine and due times, without faile or alteration.

Mewing at the
stone.

Mewing at
large.

Mewing of
short-winged
hawkes.

If you intend to mew a short winged hawke, as the *Goshawke*, or such like, you shall in *March* after you have scowred her and made her cleane from lice, cut off her Iesse, and throw her into the Mew loose, either in a high roome or a low roome at your pleasure; let her perchcs be lined with canvasse, or with woollen lifts for the safety of her feet, let her have store of water for bathing
and

and oft renewed, and store of meate, as live Pidgeons, warme Mutton, warme Goate, or Dogges-flesh, any of which will make her Mew quickly.

Hawkes for the field, would be drawne from the Mew in *June*, and made ready to flie in *August*, at which time Corne is cut and the Game is strong: and Hawkes for the River would be drawn in *August*, that they may be ready to flie in *September*.

When to draw
Hawkes.

Hawkes have divers infirmities and diseases, as Feavers, Palsey, Imposthumes, sore Eyes, and Nares, Megrimms, Pantas, casting her Gorge, foulness of Gorge, Wormes, Fillanders, ill Liver, or Goute, Pinne in the foot, breaking the pounce, Bones out of joynt, Bones broken, Bruises, Lice, Colds, Frounce, Fistulaes, Stone, much gaping, more foundring, privy evill, taint in the Feathers, losse of appetite, broken wind, blow on the Wing, wounds, swellings, eating their owne feet, taking up of veines in Hawkes, Crampe, and a world of others: All which forasmuch as I have shewed the Medicines, and cures thereof in the former Treatise called *Cheape and good*, I will refer you unto the same, and not doubt but it will give you satisfaction.

Diseases in
Hawkes.

CHAP. 6.

*Of Coursing with Grey-hounds, and the
Excellencies of that sport.*

NOW if the mind of our Husbandman be not so generally taken with the delight & pleasure of this recreation of Hawking, but that he preferreth before it the delight of Coursing with Grey-hounds, which is a very noble and worthy pastime, he shall in it observe these foure things, the *Breed* of Grey-hounds, their *Shape*, their

Of Coursing
with Grey-
hounds.

their dyet, and the Lawes belonging to the same.

Breeding of
Greyhounds.

Touching the breed of *Greyhounds* you are principally to respect the Countries in which they are bred, and nourished; as that it be a champane plaine and without covert, where a *Hare* may stand forth and indure a course of two miles or more, as it shall happen (for the coursing of the *Hare* is that which I purpose most to entreate of) because in a close Country full of covert, where a *Hare* cannot run above a quarter of a mile or lesse, both the pleasure of the recreation is taken away, and the *Greyhound* by an insufficient exercise is made unapt, and unfit for that for which he was created.

Best places for
breed.

Now of champane countries, they are of three kinds, as the Low vales, as are the vale of *Belvoire*, the vale of white *Horse*, the vale of *Easbam*, and such like, the high Dounes and Heaths, as about *Salisbury*, *Giffeter*, *Lincoln*, and many such like places, and the middle between both, as the County of *Northampton*, and *Leicester*, and others like them: All which are very excellent places for the breeding and training up of the best *Greyhounds*; yet of the three, your vallies or middle soiles, which for the most part are arable grounds, are much better to breed and traine on, then your Dounes and Heathes, because they are much more laboursome, rough, heavy, and in the winter season full of much trouble & false root-hold, in so much that a Dogge which is able to run strongly, swiftly, and surely there, must necessarily do it ten times better when he comes to the smooth, plaine, and carpet like Doune: where on the contrary, the Dogge which is trained upon those even Dounes, though he be right Famous and excellent, when he comes to run in the deepe well plowed field, is to seeke where to bestow his feete, and can neither shew speed, cunning, nor indurance.

The best Grey-
hounds.

Now

Now the Gentlemen which dwell on the Dounes and plain grounds, to maintaine the reputation of their dogs affirme them to be much more nimble and cunning in turning, then the vale dogs be, because the fairennes of the Earth giving them so much advantage over the Hare, that having her even (as it were) in a manner under their feet, she is put more to her shifts, and strives with greater art of sleights to deceive, and get advantage of the Greyhound: And it is true, for by reason of the advantage of their Hills, which are great and steepe, though smooth and plaine, I have seene a vale Dog so much deceived, that upon a turne, hee hath lost more ground then hath beene recoverable, in the whole course after: but this is no want of goodnesse but a little skill, which a moneths coursing will bring a Dog so sufficiently unt, that hee will not need any other reformation then the knowledg of his errour, by his losse of Labour. So that I conclude the good Dog upon the deeps will ever beate the good Dogs on the plaine.

Nimblenesse in Greyhounds.

It is an old deceived opinion amongst many men of the Lease, that the Greyhound bitch, will ever beate the Greyhound dog, by reason of her more nimblenesse, quicknesse and agillity: And it is sometimes seene that a perfect good Bitch indeed, hath much advantage of an ordinary Dog: but if the good Dog meete with the good Bitch, there is then no comparison, but the Dog will be her Master, in as much as he exceedeth her both in length and strength, the two maine helpes in coursing; for her nimblenesse is then no helpe, sith a good Dog in the turne will lose as little ground, as any Bitch whatsoever.

Difference betwene Doggs and Bitches

Yet thus much I would perswade all Gentlemen of the Lease to be very carefull in their breeding, to breede
upon

Dogs and Bitches for breed.

upon the best *Bitches* they can provide, for it is found in experience that the best *Dogge* upon an indifferent *Bitch* will not get so good a *Whelp*, as an indifferent *dogge* upon the best *Bitch*: And amongst these observations in breeding *Grey-hounds*; you shall observe to have your *Dogges* and *Bitches* of equall and indifferent ages, as about three or foure years old at the most; but in case of need, your *Bitch* will indure a great deale longer then your *Dogge*, and to breed with a young *Dogge* on an old *Bitch*, may bring foorth an excellent *Whelp*.

The shapes of
Greyhounds.

Touching the shapes of *Greyhounds* (from whence you shall take the best Collections for their goodnesse) they are certaine, and most infallable: Therefore touching *Greyhounds*, when they are puppies or young whelpes, those which are most raw-bon'd, lean, loose made, sickle or crooked hought, and generally unknot in every member, are ever likely to make the best *Dogges*, and most shapely: but such as in the first three or foure moneths, are round, and close trust, fat, straight, and as it were full sum'd and knot in every member, never prove good, swift or comely.

Now after your *Dogge* comes to full growth, as at a yeare and a halfe, or two years old, hee would then have a fine ong leane head, with a sharpe nose rush-growne, from the Eye downward: A full cleare eye with long Eyelids; a sharp Eare short and close falling; a long neck, a little bending, with a loose hanging wezand; a broad breast, stra't forelegs, side hollow ribs, a straight, square and flat back, short and strong fillets, a broad space between the Hips, a strong stearne or tayle, and a round foot, and good large clefts. Now for the better helpe of your memory, I will give you an old Rime, left by our Fore-fathers, from which you shall understand the true shapes

shapes of a perfect Grey-hound, and this it is.

*If you will have a good tike,
Of which there are few like,
He must be headed like a Snake,
Neckt like a Drake,
Backt like a Beame,
Sided like a Breame,
Tailed like a Rat,
And footed like a Cat.*

These being the principall members of a good Grey-hound, if they resemble the proportions of the things above named, the dogge cannot chuse but be most perfect.

When you have thus a perfect and well-shap't Grey-hound, your next rule is to apply your selfe to the dyetting and ordering of him, for the pleasure to which you keepe him, that bringing him to the uttermost height or strength of winde, you may know the uttermost goodnes that is within him, which disorderly and foule keeping will conceale, and you lose a Jewell for want of knowledge of the value.

Dyetting then of Grey-hounds consisteth in foure speciall things, to wit, *foode, exercise, ayding, and kennelling*, the first nourishing the body, the second the limbes, the third the wind, and the last the spirits.

To speak then first of foode it is two fold, either generall, or particular; generall as for a continuall upholding and maintaining of a dog in good state of body, being in good plight and liking, or particular, when a dog is either poor, sick, or prepared for vvager, standeth in neede of particular foods of advantage.

Of generall
food.

The best generall foods for the ordinary upholding of a dog in a good state of body is chippings, crusts of bread, soft tender bones or grissels of Veale, Lambe, or such like; first scalded in beefe-broth not very salt, or other broath in which hath beene boiled, Mutton, Veale, Venison, or any kinde of Pullen, or for want thereof, other cleane scalding water, after your chippings or bread is scalded you shall let it stand and coole, then when your feeding houre commeth, you shall take as much good milk, flotten milke, or butter milke (but the best is most wholesome) as will fully or more then whiten the same, for it is to be intended that your water must be all drunke up into your bread, and your milke must onely make it swim, and with this feed your dogge morning & evening after you come from walking him, and give him a good and sufficient meale thereof, for this will onely maintaine and uphold him in good state of body, being strong and lusty in flesh before.

Of particular
food.

For particular food which is when a dogge is poore, sick or to be prepared for wadger they be these: First, if he be poore in flesh, sickly or weake, the best food you can raise him up withall is to take sheepes heads wooll and all cleane washt, and break them all to peeces, then put them in a Cauldron or Kettle, and after the water hath risen and is clean skum'd, put unto it good store of Oat-meale and sweet pot-herbs small chopt together and so boile it til the flesh be tender; then with this meat and the pottage feed your *Grey-hound* morning and evening, and it will soon put him into great lust & strength: but if you will prepare him for match and wadger, then you shall make him this diet-bread, take a pecke of the finest & driest Oat-meal, and two pecks of good wheat, and having ground them together, boulst the meal thorough

Food for a
match.

rough a fineboulting cloath, and then scattering amongst it a pritty quantity of Any-seeds and Licoras wel beaten together, knead it up with the whites of Eggs, new Ale and barme mixt together, and so bake it in pretty round loaves reasonable hard, with this bread either scalded, as was before shewed in your chippings, or put into the pottage with the Sheepes-heads warme, feed your dog morning and evening, to wit, halfe an houre after Sunne rise, and halfe an houre before Sun-set, when you come from walking or ayring him, and it will bring him to exceeding great strength of body, and purenesse of winde.

Howers of
feeding.

For the exercise of your *grey-hound*, it consisteth likewise in two things, coursing and ayring; and they be every way as necessary as is food, because it onely bringeth ability to his limbes and perfitnesse to his winde: to speake then of coursing, you shall not faile to course him at least twice a week: If your courses be strong and long: but thrice a week, if they be but reasonable as a mile or a mile and a halfe at most, and sometimes if your courses be short and under a mile. In coursing you shall observe two things *bloud* and *labour*; *bloud* which is a hartning and animating of your dogge to delight in the pleasure, when he finds the reward of his paines taking; for if a dog course continually and never kill, the sport will grow yrksome unto him, and therefore now and then, give him such advantage that he may kill the Hare: then *labour*, which is contrary to killing; for in it you must give the Hare all indifferent advantage, both by Law and otherwise, whereby she may stand long before the dog, and make him shew his uttermost strength before he be able to reach her.

Of exercise by
courting.

After your dogge hath courted, if he kill you shall by

no meanes suffer him to breake the Hare, but having
Ordering dogs taken her from him first clenfe his mouth and chaps
after courſing. from the wooll of the Hare, & then give him to eate the
 Liver, Lights, and Heart, & ſo take him up in your leaſe,
 lead him home, and there firſt waſh his feet in a little
 butter and beere, and ſo put him up in the kennell, and
 half an houre after feed him : for upon his courſing days
 you muſt by no meanes give him any meate more then a
 white bread toaſt and butter, or a toaſt and Oyle, which
 muſt be given before his morning ayring, and ſo keneled
 till he go to his courſe.

Of ayring.

Touching ayring or walking of *Grey-hounds*, which is
 a great nourisher and increaſer of winde, it muſt duly
 be done every morning before Sun-riſe, and every eve-
 ning before or after Sunne ſet in this manner, as ſoone
 as you have opened your kennell and rub'd your dogge
 over with a cleane haire cloath, you ſhall let him play a
 little about you before the kennell dore, then take him
 up into your leaſh and walke him forth into the fields,
 where for the moſt part are no ſheep or other ſmall cat-
 tell, which they may out of wantonneſſe indanger, and
 there let him looſe and give him leave to play and ſcope
 about you, ſo that he may ſkummer, piſſe, and empty
 his body, which when he hath done ſufficiently, you ſhal
 then take him up in your leaſh againe, and ſo walke
 him home and Kennell him, this you ſhall doe after the
 ſame manner in the evening; and alſo if your dogge be
 ſtrong and luſty at night after ſupper, and then bring-
 ing him home bring him to the fire, and there let them
 ſtretch and beake themſelves, and with your hand
 grope and cleanſe them from ticks and other filth, which
 done leade them to the Kennell, and ſhut them up for all
 night.

Now

Now for the kenelling of *Greyhounds*, it is a right necessary action and must be performed with all diligence, for it breeds in the Dog lust, spirit, and nimbleness, prevents divers mischances, and keeps the powers from spending till time of necessity: and therefore you shall by no meanes suffer your Dog to be out of the kennell, but in the houres of feeding, walking, coursing, or when you have other necessary businesses to do about him.

Of Kenelling
the Grey-
hound.

CHAP. 7.

*The Lawes of the Leash or Coursing, as they were
commanded, allowed, and subscribed by
Thomas late Duke of Norfolk,
in the Raigne of Queene
Elizabeth.*

NOW lastly, touching the Lawes of the Leash, or Coursing, though they be uncertainly received, and alter with mens various opinions, yet these under-written were held for authentical once, and invented, received, and subscribed unto by many noble and worthy Personages, suting fully with the Reasons and grounds of the pastime.

First therefore it was ordered that he which was chosen Fewterer or letter loose of the *Greyhounds*, should receive the *Greyhounds* matcht to run together into his Leash, as soone as he came into the field, and to follow next to the Hare-finder till he came unto the forme: and no *Horseman* nor *Footeman* on paine of disgrace to go before them, or on either side, but directly behind, the space of forty yards or thereabouts.

Item, That not above one brace of *Greyhounds*, to course a *Hare* at one instant.

Item, that the *Hare-finder* should give the *Hare* three *so-hawes* before he put her from her *Leat*, to make the *Greyhounds* gaze and attend her rising.

Item, That the *Fewterer* shall give the *Hare* twelve score *Law*, ere he loose the *Greyhounds*, except it be in danger of losing sight.

Item, That *Dog* which giveth the first turne, if after the turne be given, there be neyther coate, slip, nor wrench extraordinary, then he which gave the first turn shall be held to win the wager.

Item, if one *Dog* give the first turne and the other bear the *Hare*, then he which boare the *Hare* shall win.

Item, If one *Dog* give both the first turn and last turn, and no other advantage betweene them, that od turne shall win the wager.

Item, that a coate shall be more then two turnes, and a go by, or the bearing of the *Hare* equall with two turnes

Item, if neither *Dog* turn the *Hare*, then he which leadeth last at the covert, shall be held to winne the wager.

Item, if one *Dog* turne the *Hare*, serve himselfe, and turne her againe, those two turnes shall be as much as a coate.

Item, if all the course be equall, then he only which bearers the *Hare* shall win, and if she be not borne, then the course must be adjudged dead.

Item, if hee which comes first into the death of the *Hare*, takes her up and saves her from breaking, cherisheth the *Dogs*, & cleanseth their mouthes from the wool, or other filth of the *Hare*, for such curtesie done, he shall in curtesie challenge the *Hare*; but not doing it, he shall have no right, priviledge or title therein.

Item, if any *Dog* shall take a fall in the course, and yet per-

performe his part, he shall challenge the advantage of a turne more then he giveth.

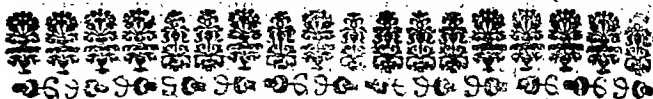
Item, if one Dog turne the Hare, serve himselfe, and give divers coats, yet in the end stand still in the field, the other Dog without turne giving, running home to the covert, that Dog which stood still in the field, shall be then adjudged to lose the wager.

If any man shall Ride over a Dog and overthrow him in his course (though the Dogge were the worse Dogge in opinion) yet the party for the offence shall either receive the disgrace of the field, or pay the wager, for betweene the parties, it shall be adjudged no course.

Item, those which are chosen Judges of the Leashe, shall give their judgements presently, before they depart from the field, or else he in worse default it lyeth, shall pay the Wager by a generall voyce and sentence.

And thus much for the Lawes of Courfing, and those particularities which do depend thereupon: All which, I submit unto the Correction and amendment of those Worthy and well knowing Gentlemen, who having the Office of the Leashe confer'd upon them, have both Authority and Power to make Lawes therein, according unto the Customes of Countries, and the Rules of reason.

The end of Hunting.



Of particular Recreations.

CHAP. 8.

Of divers other particular Recreations,

Of shooting in
the Long-bow.



Here be many other particular Recreations necessary for the knowledge and practice of our Husbandman, as first, shooting in the Long-bowe, which is both healthfull for the Body, and necessary for the Common-Wealth: the first extending the Limbes and making them pliant; the other, an able strength fit to preserve and defend his Countrey. And first for shooting in the Long-bow, a man must observe these few Rules, first that hee have a good eye to behold and discerne his marke, a knowing judgment to understand the distance of ground, to take the true advantage of a side-wind, and to know in what compasse his arrow must flie, and a quick dexterity to give his shaft a strong, sharp, and suddain loose; he must in the action it self stand faire, comely, and upright with his body, his Left foote a convenient stride before his right, both his hammes stiffe, his left arme holding his Bow in the midst stretcht straight-out, and his right arme with his three first fingers and his thumb drawing the

the string unto his right eare, the nock of his arrow resting between his fore-finger, and long finger of his right hand, and the steale of his arrow below the feathers upon the middle knuckle of his fore-finger on his left hand, hee shall draw his arrow up close unto the head, and deliver it on the instant without hanging on the string; the best Bow is either Spanish or English Yew, and the worst of Withen or Elme; the best shaft is of Burch, Sugar-chest, or Brazell, and the best feather gray or white.

The Markes to shoot at are three, Buts, Prickes, or Roavers: the But is a leuell Marke, and therefore would have a strong Arrow with a very broad Feather. The Prick is a marke of some compasse, yet most certaine in the Distance, therefore would have nimble strong Arrowes with a middle Feather, all of one weight and flying; and the Roaver is a marke incertaine, sometimes long, sometimes short, and therefore must have arrowes lighter, or heavier, according unto the distance of place.

If infirmity in the armes, or back, take from a man the use of the Long-bow, hee may then with a Crosbow Of shooting in Crosbowes. made for gafel carried upon a string, and the nether end placed in a rest with arrowes made strong, heavy, and futable to the strength of the Bow, shoot at all the former Markes, and reape the same pleasure he formerly did with his Long-bow.

There is another Recreation, which howsoever unlawfull in the abuse thereof, yet exercised with moderation, is even of Physitians themselves held exceeding wholsome, and hath been prescribed for a recreation to great Persons, and that is Bowling, in which a man shall find great Art in choosung out his ground, and preventing Of Bowling.

ring the Winding, Hanging, and many turning advantages of the same, whether it be in open Wide places or in close allies, and in this sport, the chusing of the Bowle is the greatest cunning; your flat Bowles being the best for close Allies, your round byazed Bowles for open Grounds of advantage, and your round Bowles like a Ball, for green-swarthes that are plaine and leuell.

Not inferiour to these sports, either for health or action, are the Tenise, or Baloone, the first being a pastime in close or open Courts, striking a little round ball too or fro, either with the palme of the hand, or with Racket: The other a strong and moving sport in the open fields, with a great Ball of double Leather fild with Winde, and so driven too and fro with the strength of a mans Arme arm'd in a Bracer of

Wood, cyther of which actions must
be learnt by the Eye and practise
not by the Eare or
Reading.

* * *



Of Angling, &c.

CHAP. 9.

The whole Art of Angling ; as it was written in a small Treatise in Rime , and now for the better understanding of the Reader, put into Prose, and adorned and enlarged : And first of Angling, the vertue, use, and Antiquity.



Since Pleasure is a Rapture, or power in this last Age, stolne into the hearts of men, and there lodged up with such a carefull guard and attendance, that nothing is more Supreme, or ruleth with greater strength in their affections, and since all are now become the sonnes of Pleasure, and every good is measured by the delight it produceth : what worke unto men can be more thankfull : then the Discourse of that pleasure which is most comely, most honest, and giveth the most liberty to Divine Meditation, and that without all question is the Art of Angling, which having ever bin most hurtlesly necessary, hath bin the sport or Recreation of Gods Saints, of most holy Fathers, and of many worthy and Reverend Divines, both dead, and at this time breathing.

For

The use of
Angling, and
the vertue.

For the use thereof (in its owne true and unabused nature) carrieth in it neither covetousnesse, deceit, nor anger, the three maine spirits which (ever in some ill measure) rule in all other pastimes , neither are alone predominant without the attendance of their severall handmaidens, as Theft, Blasphemy or Bloodshed : for in Dice-play, Cards, Bowles, or any other sport where mony is the goale to which mens minds are directed, what can mans avarice there be accounted, other then a familiar Robbery, each seeking by deceit to couzen and spoile other of that blisse of meanes which God had bestowed to support them and their families? And as in every contention there must be a betterhood or super-excelling, so in this, when the weaker deceit is deprived his expectation, how doth it then fall into curses, oathes, and furies, such as would make Vertue tremble with the imagination.

But in this Art of Angling there is no such evil, no such sinfull violence, for the greatest thing it coveteth, is for much labour a little Fish, hardly so much as will suffice Nature in a reasonable stomach : for the Angler must intice, not command his reward, and that which is worthy millions to his contentment, another may buy for a groate in the market. His deceit worketh not upon men but upon those creatures whom it is lawfull to beguile for our honest recreations or needfull uses, and for all rage and fury it must be so great a stranger to this civill pastime, that if it come but within view or speculation thereof, it no more to be esteemed a Pleasure, for every proper good thereof in the very instant faileth, shewing unto all men that will undergoe any delight therein, that it was first invented, taught, and shall for ever bee maintained by Patience onely.

And

And yet I may not say onely *Patience*, for her other three Sisters have likewise a commanding power in this exercise, for *Justice* directeth and appointeth out those places where men may with liberty use their sport, and neither do injury to their neighbours, nor incur the censure of incivillity. *Temperance* layeth downe the measure of the action, and moderateth desire in such good proportion, that no Excesse is found in the overflow of their affections. Lastly, *Fortitude* inableth the minde to undergo the travaile, and exchange of Weathers with a healthfull ease, and not to dispaire with a little expence of time, but to persevere with a constant imagination in the end to obtain both pleasure and satisfaction.

Now for the Antiquity thereof (for all pleasures, like Gentry, are held to be most excellent, which is most ancient) it is by some Writers sayd to be found out by *Ducalion* and *Pyrrha* his Wife, after the generall flood: others write, it was the invention of *Saturne*, after the peace concluded betwixt him and his brother *Tytan*: and others, that it came from *Belus* the sonne of *Nimrod*, who first invented all holy and vertuous Recreations: and all these though they favour of fiction, yet they differ not from truth, for it is most certaine that both *Ducalion*, *Saturne*, and *Belus*, are taken for figures of *Noah*, and his Family, and the invention of the Art of Angling, is truly sayd to come from the sonnes of *Seth*, of which *Noah* was most Principall. Thus you see it is good, as having no coherence with evill, worthy of use, in as much as it is mixt with a delightfull profit: and most ancient, as being the Recreation of the first Patriarkes, wherefore nowv I vvill proceed to the Art it selfe, and the meanes to attaine it.

The antiquity
of Angling.

CHAP. IO.

*Of the Angle-rod, Lines, Corkes, Hookes, and other
Tooles for Angling.*

IN as much as the first ground Worke or Substance of this Art of Angling consisteth in the implements belonging and appertayning thereunto, and that except a man be possesst of them which are most exact, nimble, or necessary for the same, his labour is vayne, and to little or no purpose employed, and for as much as the Angle-rod is the greatest, principallest, and sole direct or of all other Tooles belonging thereunto, I thinke it not amisse to begin with the choyse and order thereof, according to the opinions of the best noted Anglers, which either have bin in times past, or are at this day living.

Of the Angle-
Rod.

For the choyce then of your Angle-Rod you shall understand that some Anglers are of opinion; that the best should be composed of two peeces, a maine body, and a small pliant top. The maine body would be of a fine growne ground-witchen, or a ground Elme, of at least nine or ten foote in length, straight, smooth, without knots, and not much differing, at either end in one substance or thicknesse. It would be gathered at the fall of the Leafe, neere, or about *Al-hallontide*, and layd up in some dry place, where it may lie straight, and of it selfe season: For to beake them in the fire (as many do) when they are greene, is not so good, but after they be well dryed and seasoned of themselves, then to beake them in the fire, and set them so straight and even that an arrow cannot surpasse them, is excellent; then you may take off the upper rinde, and what with the smoake, and their own age, their colour will be so dark

darke, that they will give no reflect into the Water, (which is a principall observation.) Your Rod being made thus straight and seasoned, you shall at the upper end thereof, with an Augure or a hot Iron, but a hot Iron is the better, burne a hole about three inches deep, and of a fingers wideneffe : then on the outside of the Rod, from the top of the hole unto the bottome, you shal warpt it about either with strong double twisted threed well Waxed or pitcht, or with Shoo-makers threed many times doubled, and well waxed with Shooe-makers Wax, and the last end fastned under the last foulds, so close and so sure, that it may by no meanes loose; for this will keep the Rod from cleaving or breaking in that same place, where the hollownesse was made.

The stock being thus made, you shall into the hole Of the Top of, the Angle rod. fix the Top, which would be a very small ground Hazell, growing from the Earth upward, very smooth and straight, which would be cut at the latter end of the yeare, and lie in season all the Winter, the upper Rinde being by no meanes taken off, neyther the Rod put into the fire at all, but onely seasoned in a good dry place, where it may lie straight, and have both the Winde and some Ayre of the fire to come unto it. This Top must be plyant and bending, yet of such a sufficient strength that it will not breake with any reasonable jerk, but as it is any way bowed, so to returne againe to the former straightnesse. This top wand would be of a yard and a halfe, or an Ell at least in length, and at the smallest end thereof would be fastned with a warpe of haire, a strong loope of haire, about an inch long, to which you may at pleasure fasten your fishing line: and the bigger end of the top, must be thrust into the socker
of

of the stock, and made so fast that it may not loosen nor shake out with any shaking, or other reasonable violence. And all be the Withen or ground-elme are accounted the best to frame these maine stockes of, yet I have seene very good stockes made both of Sallow, Beech, or Poplar: for the lighter your Rod is (so it be strong) it is so much the better, and more for the ease of him that useth it.

The Angle-rod
of one peece.

There be other approved good Anglers which allow onely that Rodde which is composed all of one entire peece, and think them stronger, nimbler, and lesse casuall, and these Rods they would have chosen of an excellent straight and well growne ground-Hazell, being from the bottome to the top finely rush growne, the upper end thereof being small, pliant and bending. This Rod would be gathered at the fall of the leafe, when the leaves are some fallen and some sticking: as soon as you have cut them up, you shall cut away the leaves and small sprigs, yet not so neere that you hurt the Barke (for that by no meanes must be stird, as well for the strength of the Rod, as for the colour, which being darke will not so soon catch the eye of the Fish, and offend them.) Then bringing your Rods home, you shall lay them upon a leuell flore, and pressing them downe with good weights, to keepe them from warping, let them lie and season all the Winter: Then in the Spring-time take them up, for your purpose, which is onely to make the Knots smooth, and to fix your loope of haire unto the upper end. Now of these Roddes, the longest is the best, so it be straight and well growne, for most commonly they are so short that they will serve to fish with but in little narrow Brookes, or else in a Boat, in great Waters.

There

There bee other Anglers, and many of the best and approvedst judgements, which allow the Angle-rod of many pieces: as those which are made of Cane, each piece exceeding another one degree, in such even proportion that being fixed and thrust one within another they will shew as one even & most straight rush-growne body, without any crookednesse or other outward evil favourednesse. These pieces would not be above foure foot in length a piece, and three such pieces, which make twelve foot, are sufficient for the stocke of the Rodde, besides the toppe. Now for those ends which are the sockets, into which you fixe the other Canes, you shall hoope them about with fine plates of Brasse, an inch & an halfe broad, well sodered, and smoothly filed, which will keepe the Cane from cleaving: and for the toppe of this Rod, the round Whale bone is thought the best, and surely in my conceite so it is, both for this, or any other rodde whatsoever, for it is tough, strong, and most plyant. These Rods most commonly are made to have the small Canes thrust downe into the wide Canes, so that a man may walke with them as with a staffe, and when hee pleaseth draw them forth, and use them as occasion shall be offered. The onely exception which is taken at these kind of Roddes, is the bright colour of the Cane, which reflecting into the water, oft times sca- reth the Fish, and maketh them afraid to bite: But if you fish in deepe and thicke waters, there is no such matter, for the shadow of the Rodde is not discerned through the Sunne, onely in shallow and cleere Brookes it is a little hinderance, and therefore he which is a Master in this Art will Vmber and darken the Rodde, by rubbing it over a gentle fire with a little Capons grease, and browne of Spaine, mixt together.

Of the Lines.

Now for your Lines, you shall understand that they are to be made of the strongest, longest, and best growne Horse haire that can be got, not that which groweth on his Maïne, nor upon the upper part or setting on of his tayle, but that which groweth from the middle and inmost part of his dock, and so extendeth it selfe down to the ground, being the biggest and strongest haire about the Horse: neither are these haire to be gathered from poore, leane, & diseased Iades of little price or value, but from the fattest, soundest, and proudest Horse you can find, for the best Horse hath ever the best hayre; neither would your hayres be gathered from Nagges, Mares, or Geldings, but from ston'd-Horses onely, of which the blacke haire is the worst, the white or gray best, and other colours indifferent. Those lines which you make for small Fish, as Gudgeon, Wirling, or Menow, would be composed of three hayres; those which you make for Pearch, or Trout, would be of five hayres; and those for the Chub or Barbell, would be of seaven: to those of three hayres you shall adde one threed of silke; to those of five two threeds of silke; and to those of seaven three threeds of silke. You shall twist your hayres neither too hard nor too slacke, but even so as they may twinde and couth close one within another and no more, without either snarling or gaping on from another: the end, you shall fasten together with a Fishers knot, which is your ordinary fast knot, foulded foure times about, both under and above, for this will not loose in the water, but being drawne close together will continue when all other knots will faile, for a hayre being smooth and stiffe, will yeeld and goe backe if it bee not artificially drawne together. Your ordinary Line would be betweene three and foure fadome,

dome in length, yet for as much as there are diversities in the length of Rods, in the depth of waters, and in the places of standing to Angle in, it shall be good to have Lines of divers lengths, and to take those which shall be fittest for your purpose.

These Lines, though the naturall hayres, being white or grey, be not much offensive, yet it shall not be amisse to colour them according to the seasons of the yeere, for so they will least scare the Fish, and soonest intise them to bite with most greedines: and of colours the best is the Water-greene, which you shall make after this manner: Take a pottle of Allome water, and put thereunto a great handfull of Marigolds, and let them boile well till a yellow skum rise upon the water, then take halfe a pound of greene Coperas, and as much Verdigrease, beaten to fine powder, and put it with the haire into the water, and so let it boyle againe a pretty space, and then set it by to coole for halfe a day: then take out your hayre, and lay it where it may dry, and you shall see it of a delicate greene colour, which indeed is the best Watergreene that may be.

The colouring
of Lines.

This colour is excellent to Angle with in all cleere waters where the Line lies plaine and most discovered, and will continue from the beginning of the Spring to the beginning of Winter. Now if you will have your Lines of a yellow colour, you shall boyle your haire in Allome water, mixt only with Marigolds, and a handfull of Turmericke: but if you cannot get Turmericke, then you shall stampe so much of greene Walnut-tree leaves, and mixe it with the water, and steepe your haire therein twenty and foure houres at least.

Lines of this colour are good to Angle with in waters that are cleere, yet full of weeds, sedge, and such like,

for it is not unlike to the stalkes of these weedes, and it will well continue to Angle withall the first part of the winter, as from before Michaelmas till after Christmas.

If you will have your Lines of a Russet colour, you shall take a part of Allome water, and as much strong Lye, then put thereto a handfull of soote, and as much browne of Spaine, and after it hath boyled an houre or two, set it by to coole, and when it is cold steep your haye therein a day and a night, and then hang it up to dry: these coloured Lines are good to Angle with in all deepe waters, whether they be Rivers or standing Pooles, as Ponds, and such like, and are most in use from Christmas till after Easter.

Now if you will have your Lines of a Browne or Dusky colour, you shall take a pound of Vmber, and halfe so much Soote, and seeth it in a pottle of Ale a good space, then when it is cold steep your haire therein a day and a night, and then hang them up to drye, and the colour will be perfect, yet ever the darker you would have it, the more Vmber put unto it: these Lines are excellent to Angle with in waters that are black, deepe, and muddy, be they either running or standing waters, and will continue all seasons of the yeere whatsoever, onely in bright waters they are too black, and cast too large a shadow. Lastly, if you would have your Lines of a tawny colour (although in the water it sheweth almost all one with the other darker colours) you shall take Lime and water, mixe it together, & steep your haire therein halfe a day, and then take it forth and steepe it double so long time in Tanners ouze, and then hang it up to dry, and the colour will be perfect: these Lines are best to Angle with in morish and heathy waters, which are of a reddish colour, and wil serve for that purpose

purpose all seasons of the year: if with this colour or the greene, you mixe a silver threed it will not be amisse, and with the other colours a gold threed it is good also: and note, that at each end of your Line you make a loope, the one to fasten to the top of your Rod, being the larger, and the other to fasten your hooke-Line unto, which would be somewhat lesser.

After your Lines be made, you shall make your Corks Of the Cork. in this manner: take of the best and thickest Corke you can get, and with a fine Razor having pared it smooth on the outside, cut it into the fashion of a long Katherine Peare, big and round at the one end, and long and slender at the other, and according to the strength of your Line, so make your worke bigger or lesser, as for a Line of three hayres, a Corke of an inch and halfe in length, and as much in compasse in the thickest part is bigge enough: and for a Line or more haire, a Corke of more length, and compasse will become it: and indeed to speak truly, for as much as it serveth but only for a direction to your eye to know when the fish biteth, and when you shall strik, the lesser your Cork is, the better it is, and breedeth lesse affright in the water, in so much that many Anglers will fish without any Cork, with a bare quill only, but that it is not so certaine, nor giveth so sure direction as the Cork doth. After you have shaped your Corke, you shall with a hot Iron boare a hole, long-wise, through the middest thereof, and into that hole thrust a quill, and through the quill draw your Line, and fasten them both together with a wedge of the hard end of the goose feather: and note that both your quill and your wedge be white, for that breedeth least offence on the water, then place the smaller end of your corke downe towards your Hooke, and the bigger end towards your rod, that

the smaller end, sinking downe with the Hooke, the bigger may floate aloft and beare the quill upward, which when at any time, you see or perceiue puld downe into the water, then you may safely strike, for without doubt it is an assured signe that the fish hath bitten at the bate.

There bee other Anglers which make their Corkes in the fashion of a Nunne gigge, small at both ends, and bigge in the middest, and it is not much to bee disliked, onely it is a little sooner apt to sinke, and you may thereby strike before the Fish have fully bitten. Others shape their Corkes in the fashion of a whirle, or of a little Apple, round, flattish of both sides, and this corke is best to Angle for the greatest Fishes, because it being not so apt to sinke, will floate till the Hooke bee fastned, and that the Fish beginneth to shut away with the bayte, so that a man then striking can seldome or never loose his labour.

Of Angle in
Hookes.

Next to your Corkes is your Hookes, and they bee of diuers shapes and fashions, some bigge, some little, some between both, according to the Fish at which you angle, the best substance whereof to make them, is either old Spanish Needles, or els strong Wyer drawne as neere as may be to that hight of tempers, which being needled and alayde in the fire, you may hend and bow at your pleasure. Now for the best softning of your Wyer, if you make your Hookes of old Needles, you shall neede but to hold them in the blaze of a Candle till they bee red hot, and then let them coole of themselves, and they will be soft, and plyant enough, but if you make your Hookes of strong Spanish Wyer, you shall roule it rounde, and then lay it upon burning Char-Coales, turning

turning it up and downe till it bee all red hot in every place, then let it gently coole of it selfe, and it will bee soft enough. Now for the making of your Hooke, I advise you to goe to such as are best reputed for making of them, and buy of all sorts of Hooke from the biggest to the least, that is to say, from that which taketh the Loach, to that which taketh the Salmon, and let them lye before you for examples : then looke of what sort of Hooke you intend to make, and with a fine File, first make the poynt of your Hooke, which would neyther bee too sharpe, for then it will catch hold of every thing, when it should not, nor too blunt, least it faile to take hold when there is occasion : therefore in that observe a meane, making it lesse sharpe then a fine Needle, and more sharpe then a small Pinne. When you have made the poynt then with a thinne Knife of a very good edge, you shall cut out and raise up the berd which you shall make greater or lesse, according to the bignesse of the Hooke, and the strength of the Wyer : for you must by no meanes cut the beard so deepe, that thereby you weaken the Hooke, but it must bee as strong in that place as any other. When the point and beard is made, you shall with a fine paire of round Plyers turne and compasse the Hooke about, making it round, circular-wise, being somewhat more then a semicircle, and ever observe that the rounder the compasse or bought cometh in, that so much the better proportioned the Hook is. This done, you shall leave as much as you thinke convenient for the shanke, and then cut it off from the rest of the Wyer : which done, you shall beate the end downe flat, and somewhat broader then the rest, and so pollish and smooth it all over, then heating it

red hot in a little Panne of Charchoales put it suddainly into the Water, and quench it, which will bring your Hooke to a full strength and hardnesse. Thus you see how to make Hooks of all sizes and shapes, whether they be single or double Hookes, for although the quantities alter, yet the shapes do not; and the double Hook which is the Pike-hooke, is no other, but two single Hookes all of one Wyer, turned contrary wayes : and this double Hooke must not have the Line fixt unto it, but a strong Wyer joyned unto it of three inches long, well wound about & warped with a smaller Wyer : then to it another Wyer of the same length, as if they were two severall linkes joyned together, and then the Line fixed to the last Link, and therefore are called armed hooke, for they defend the line from shearing or cutting in pieces with the teeth of the Pike.

Now for your single Hookes, you shall thus fix them unto your Lines, take a length of your twisted Hayres, contayning that number which is fit for the Hooke, and having made a strong loope at the one end, lay the other end where is no bought upon the inside of your Hooke, then with a strong red Silke, either single or double, according to the bignesse of the Hooke, being well waxed, whippe and wrap the Hooke round about, as thick, close, and strait as may be, in such sort as you see men whippe their Bow-strings, and in the same manner make the ends of your silke fast ; then with a paire of sizers cut the silke and haire off close by the Hooke, and you may bee sure that they will not loose one from another, with reasonable violence.

After your Hooke is thus fastened to your Line, you shall then plumbe your Line, which is to fix certaine pieces of Lead, according to the bignesse of your Line
about

about it, some being in length a quarter of an inch, some halfe an inch, some bigger, and some lesse, according unto the waight of your Hooke, and bignesse of your Cork, for these plumets are but onely to carry downe your Hooke, and lay it in the bottome, neither being so heavy to make the Corke sinke, nor so light as not with the smallest touch to make the Corke dip into the water; you shall then understand that your first plumet would be twelve or fourteene inches from the Hooke, the rest not above one inch distance one from another, not being above five or seaven at the most, albe some Angiers use nine, and some more, as their fancies rule them. There is in plumbing of Lines three severall fashions of plumets used, as one long, another square, and the third in a Diamond forme, but all tending to one end, have but one use, and the long ones are accounted the best, so that they bee neatly set to, and the ends very smooth and close layd downe, so that they tangle not the Line by catching hold upon Weedes, or other trash in the bottome of the water.

Thus have you seene the best choise of Rods, Lines, Corkes, and Hookes, and how to fix and couple them altogether to doe their severall Offices, it now resteth that wee speake of other necessary implements, which should accompany the painefull and industrious *Angler*, and they be these: Hee shall besides these before spoken of, have a large Musket bullet, through which having fixed a double twisted threed, and therof made a strong loope, he may at his pleasure hang it upon his Hook, and therewith sound the depth of every water, and so know how to plumbe his lines, and place his corke in their due places, then hee shall have a large ring of lead, six inches at least in compasse, and made fast to a small long line, through

Of other implements for Anglers

through which, thrusting your Angle rod, and letting it fall into the Water by your haire Line, it wil help to un- your Hooke if it bee fastned, either upon weeds or other stones in the Water.

Then he shall have a fine smooth board of some curious Wood for shew sake, being as big as a Trencher, and cut battlement- wise at each end, on which hee shall fold his severall Lines. His hooke he shall have in a dry close box; hee shall have a little Bag of red cloath, to carry his Wormes in, and mix with them a little fresh mould and Fennell; then he shall either have a close stopt Horne, in which he shall keepe Maggots, Bobbes, Palmers, and such like, or a hollow Cane, in which he may put them, and Scarrabs: He shall have a close box for all sorts of live Flies, and another for Needles, Silke, Threed, Wax, and loose haire, then a roule of pitch Threed to mend the Angle-rod withall, if it chance to break, a File, a Knife, a Pouch with many purses, in which you may place all your implements whatsoever severally.

Lastly, hee shall have a little fine wanded Pebbe to hang by his side, in which he shall put the Fish he catcheth, and a small round Net fastned unto a poales end, wherewith hee may land a Pike, or any other great Fish of that kinde whatsoever. To have also a little Boate or Cot, if you Angle in great waters, to carry you up and down, to the most convenientest places for your pastime, is also right necessary, and fit of an Angler; and thus I have shewed you the substance of the Anglers instruments.

CHAP. 2.

Of the Anglers Apparell, and inward Qualities.

Touching the Anglers apparrell (for it is as respect as necessary as an other whatsoever) it would by no meanes be garish, light coloured, or shining, for whatsoever with a glittering hew it reflecteth upon the water, immediately it frighteth the Fish, and maketh them flie from his presence, no hunger being able to tempt them to bite, when their eye is offended : and of all creatures there is none more sharpe sighted then Fishes are. Let then your apparell be plaine and comely, of a darke colour, as Russet, Tawny, or such like, close to your body, without any new fashioned slashes, or hanging sleeves, waving loose, like sailes about you, for they are like Blinks which will ever chase your Game from you : let it for your owne health and ease sake, bee warme and well lined, that neither the coldnesse of the Ayre, nor the moistnesse of the water may offend you : keep your head and feet dry, for from the offence of them springeth Agues, and worse infirmities.

Anglers apparell.

Now for the inward qualities of the minde, albe some Writers reduce them into twelve heads, which indeed whosoever injoyeth cannot chuse but be very compleat in much perfection, yet I must draw them into many more Branches. The first, and most especiall whereof, is, that a skilfull Angler ought to bee a generall Scholler, and scene in all the Liberall Sciences, as a Grammarian, to know how either to Write or Discourse of his Art in true and fitting termes, either without affectation or rudenes. He should have sweetness of speech,

Anglers vertues.

to

to perswade and intice other to delight in an Exercise so much Laudable. Hee should have strength of arguments to defend and maintaine his profession, against Envy or slander. Hee should have knowledge in the Sunne, Moone, and Starres, that by their Aspects hee may guesse the seasonableness, or unseasonableness of the weather, the breeding of stormes, and from what coasts the Windes are ever delivered. Hee should bee a good knower of Countries, and well used to high wayes, that by taking the readiest pathes to every Lake, Brook, or River, his journies may be more certaine and lesse wearisome. Hee should have knowledge in proportions of all sorts, whether Circular, Square, or Diameatricall, that when hee shall be questioned of his diurnall Progresses, hee may give a Geographickall description of the Angles and Channels of Rivers, how they fall from their heads, and what compasses they fetch in their severall windings. He must also have the perfect Art of numbring, that in the sounding of Lake^s or Rivers, hee may know how many foot or inches each severally containeth, and by adding, subtracting, or multiplying the same, hee may yeeld the reason of every Rivers swift or slow Current. Hee should not be unskillfull in Musick, that whensoever either melancholly, heaviness of his thought, or the perturbations of his owne fancies stirreth up sadness in him, hee may remove the same with some godly Hymne or Antheme, of which *David* gives him ample examples.

Hee must be of a well settled and constant beliefe, to enjoy the benefit of his Expectation, for then to Dispayre, it were better never to put in practise: And hee must ever thinke where the waters are pleasant and any thing likely, that there the Creator of all good things hath

hath stored up much of his plenty : and though your satisfaction be not as ready as your wishes, yet you must hope still, that with perseverance you shall reape the fulnesse of your Haruest with contentment : Then bee must be full of love, both to his pleasure and to his Neighbour; To his pleasure, which otherwise would be irkesome and tedious, and to his neighbour that he neither give offence in any particular, nor be guilty of any generall destruction : Then he must be exceeding patient, and neither vex nor excruciate himselfe with losses or mischances, as in losing the prey when it is almost in the hand, or by breaking his Toolles by ignorance or negligence, but with a pleased sufferance amend errors, and thinke mischances instructions to better carefulnesse.

He must then be full of humble thoughts, not disdainning when occasion commands to kneele, lye downe, or wet his feet or fingers, as oft as there is any advantage given thereby, unto the gaining the end of his labour. Then he must be strong and valiant, neither to be amazed with stormes, nor affrighted with Thunder, but to hold them according to their naturall causes, and the pleasure of the Highest : neither must he, like the Foxe which preyeth upon Lambes, imploy all his labour against the smaller Frie, but like the Lyon that seizeth Elephants, thinke the greatest Fish which swimmeth, a reward little enough for the paines which he endureth. Then must he be liberall, and not working onely for his owne belly, as if it could never be satisfied; but he must with much cheerefulnesse bestow the fruites of his skill amongst his honest neighbours, who being partners of his gaine, will doubly renown his triumph, and that is ever a pleasing reward to vertue.

Then

Then must he be prudent, that apprehending the Reasons why the Fish will not bite, and all other casual impediments which hinder his sport, and knowing the Remedies for the same, hee may direct his Labours to be without troublesomnesse: Then hee must have a moderate contentation of the mind, to be satisfied with indifferent things, and not out of an avaricious greedinesse thinke every thing too little, be it never so abundant: Then must he be of a thankfull nature, praising the Author of all goodnesse, and shewing a large gratefulnesse for the least satisfaction: Then must he be of a perfect memory, quicke, and prompt to call in to his mind all the needfull things which are any way in his Exercise to be imployed, lest by omission or by forgetfulnessse of any, he frustrate his hopes, and make his Labour effectlesse. Lastly, he must be of a strong constitution of body, able to endure much fasting, and not of a gnawing stomacke, observing houres, in which if it be unsatisfied, it troubleth both the mind and body, and loseth that delight which maketh the pastime onely pleasing.

Cautions.

Thus having shewed the inward Vertues and qualities which should alwayes accompany a perfect Angler, it is very meet now to give unto you certaine Cautions, which being carefully observed, you shall with more ease obtayne the fulnesse of your desires. First therefore, when you go to Angle, you shall observe that all your Toolles, Lines, or Implements be (as the Sea-man saith) yare, fit, and ready, for to have them ravel'd, ill made, or in unreadinesse, they are great hindrances unto your pleasure. Then looke that your baites be good, sweete, fine, and agreeing with the Season: for if they be otherwise improper in any of their natures, they are
use.

uselesse, and you had beene better at home then by the River. Then you must not Angle in unseasonable times, for the Fish not being inclined to bite, it is a strange intisement that can compell them : Then you must be carefull neither by your apparell, motions, or too open standing to give a fright to the Fish, for when they are scared they flye from you, and you seeke society in an empty House. Then must you labour in cleere and untroubled waters, for when the Brookes are any thing white, muddy, and thicke, either through inundations or other trouble, it is impossible to get any thing with the Angle : Then to respect the temper of the weather, for extreme wind or extreme cold taketh from Fish all manner of appetite; So doth likewise too violent heate, or raine that is great, heavy, and beating; or any stormes, Snowes, Hailes, or blustrings, especially that which commeth from the East; which of all is the worst: those which blow from the South are best, and those which come from the North or west are indifferent : Many other observations there are, but they shall follow in their due places.

CHAP. 12.

Of the best and worst Seasons to Angle in, and their uses.

BEfore I direct you in the best Seasons, and their contrary, for the generall Art of Angling, I thinke it not amisse, a little by the way, to give you a glaunce or speculation how to order your Body and Art of each severall water : for the manner of your standing and concealing of your selfe, is a materiall and chiefe point in this Art.

Know

The Anglers
manner of
standing.

Know then, that if you Angle in any Pond or standing water, you shall before you fall to your businesse, with your Plumbe, sound the water in divers places, and where you find it deepest, blackest, and least transparent, there you shall stand to Angle, placing your selfe under the banke, and if it be possible, so as your shadow may bee carried from the water: For you must at no time, if you can chuse, let your shadow lye upon the water: and although in these deep places your standing open or close, are either of them reckoned indifferently, because the waters depth is a sufficient concealment, yet the closer you stand is accounted amongst Anglers most handsome and artificiall.

But if you go to Angle at the River, then the best place to cast in your Line, is where it is deepest and clearest, so as you may behold the Sand or Gravell at the bottome: and in these places you shall strive to conceale your selfe as much as possible, as standing behind Poplars, Oziers, or other Trees, or under the covert of some Banke, Rocke, or other ruines at the side of the River: also in covert places, where are many Weedes, rootes of Trees, and other rubbish, is good Angling, but very troublesome, for Fish lying there warme and in safety, will have a great resort thereunto, and bite freely, so that the Angler must be carefull in the putting in of his hooke, and very deliberate in striking, least doing any thing rashly, he breake his Line and Hooke, being never so little intangled.

It is good also to Angle in Whirle-pooles, for they being like pits within the Rivers, are seldome unfurnished of the greatest Fishes; also, it is good to Angle at the falls of waters, as under Bridges, standing behind the lawmes and Arches, or at the flood-gates of Mills, being

being hid with the higher Timbers. And generally where you see the Water is deepest, clearest, and calmest, being least troubled with winde or weather, is the fittest place to angle in. Other observations there are, but they will follow in more necessary places.

To returne then to our first purpose. You shall know the best seasons to Angle in, is from Aprill till the end of October, speaking of the general use of the pleasures; and the best houres also in generall account, are from foure in the morning till nine, and from three in the afternoone till after five in the Evening, the winde blowing from South, West, or North, and the ayre temperate, inclined to warmenesse: but to speak of particular observations of seasons, know, that if the day be darke, close, and lowring, or have a gentle whistling winde playing upon the water, it is good to Angle in, and the Fish will byte with pleasure: nay, if a fine mizzling dew of raine fall gently, without violence, they will then bite the faster: also after floods are gone away, and the Rivers are come within their own bankes, their first cleerenesse recovered, and the water pure, then it is good to Angle. And generally for your Summer Angling chuse the coolest time of the day, for in the heate of the day Fish betake themselves to their rest, and will neither byte nor play.

The best seasons to Angle in.

But for your Winter Angling, which is from October to Aprill, you shall not make any difference of time, if the weather be calme, for all houres of the Sun are alike, onely the noone-tide or mid day is most preferred, especially in Ponds, and standing waters. If the water where you Angle, ebbe or flow, the best time of Angling is held to be in the ebbe: yet in some places where the tyde is not great, there the flood is preferred.

Lastly, whensoever you see the Trout play or leape above the water, and the Pike shut in pursuit of other Fishes, it is then a very good time to Angle in, using such baits as are then meet for the month and season, as shall be shewed hereafter.

Seasons ill to
Angle in.

Now for those seasons which are nought to Angle in, there is none worse than in the violent heate of the day, or when the Windes are loudest, Raine heaviest, Snow and Hayle extremest; Thunder and lightning are offensive, or any sharpe ayre which flyeth from the East: the places where men use to wash Sheepe you shall forbear, for the very smell of the wooll will chase fish from their haunts. Land floods are enemies to Anglers, so also at the fall of the leafe is the shedding of leaves into the water, and many other such like pollutions, of which we will speake something more hereafter.

Of Fishes.
habits.

Therefore, to conclude this Chapter, and to shew you as well how to find your fish, as the Art to take it being found, you shall know that the Carpe, Eele, and Tench, doe ever haunt muddy places: the first, which is the Carpe, lyeth ever in the depth and bottome thereof; the Tench, among the weedes and rootes of Sedges, and the Eele under stones, blockes, or the roots of Trees.

The Breame, the Chevin, and the Pyke, haunt ever in the cleare and sandy bottome: the Pike where you see great store of small fry; the Chevin where the streame runneth swiftest, and the shade is greatest, and the Breame where the water is broadest, and the depth giveth greatest liberty; and generally these three sorts of fish delight more in standing waters then in running Rivers, although the ancient Proverbe is.

An come

*Ancome Eele, and Witham Pike,
In all England is none fike.*

which are Rivers in *Lincolne-shire*. Now the Salmon hath his haunt in the swiftest and broadest rivers, whose Channels fall down into the Sea: The Trout loveth smaller brooks, whose currant is swift, cleare, and gravelly, and ever hath his lodging in the deepest holes that are therein; and the Perch haunteth rivers of the same nature, only he abideth most in the creeks and hollownes, which are about the bank; and indeed these three fishes generally, Salmon, Trout, and Perch, love cleare streames, being Greene with weedes, and the bottomes hard with gravel and pibble.

The Gudgeon, the Loach, and the Bulhead, haunt ever shallowest places, and where streames are slow, yet transparent: The barbell, Roch, Dace, and Ruffe, haunt the deepe shady places of those brookes which are mixt with more sand then gravell, or where the clay is firme, and not slimie, and delight ever to lye under the shadowes of trees, brambles or other things growing from the banke.

The Luce or Lucerne, which indeed is but the overgowne Pyke, haunteth the broad and large Meares, which are miles in compasse, being deepe and still, and ever lodgeth in the bottome thereof amongst the rootes and tufts of Sedge, and Bulrushes, being quiet and least troubled. The Humber haunts the clayie Rivers of hye Countries, where the soyle is rich and full of Marle, or in Lakes or ponds of the same nature. The Shade and Tweak, haunt those waters which are brackish, deepe, and accustomed to ebbe and flow,

and where they haunt, there commonly also is found both the Mullet and the Suant, all which love to lodge close and flat at the bottome of the water, so it be more Ooze then gravell.

Objection.

But heere now me thinkes, I heare the curious reprehend me, saying, that if these Rules should be infallible, that then no River or Pond could containe above three sorts of Fish onely, when daily Experience sheweth us, that some Rivers have ten, some twenty, and some thirty, as the *Trent* for example, whose auncient name in the French is *Trianta*, in Latine *Triginta*, and in English *Thirty*, derived from this ground, because there standeth upon her thirty Castles, thirty Market Townes, and are in her thirty severall sorts of fishes.

Answer.

To which I thus answer, that forasmuch as into most Rivers falleth many severall Waters and many soiles, according unto the nature of those Countries through which the Channels runne, that therefore every alteration of soile may alter the breed of Frye, and many severall kindes may be in one Streame, so that the Angler in the choise of his pastime in such places, must either have a perfect knowledge how the soiles doe alter (which he may commonly know by the Bankes,) or else relie upon his Experience, which will be the best Tutor to direct him unto the haunts of severall fishes, but for ponds or standing waters which are of one earth, there you shall surely find them best prosper, which are before Rehearsed.

CHAP. 13.

Of Baites in generall, and of every particular kinde: their Seasons, Use, and Preservations.

Since I have thus far orderly passed over the outward and instrumental necessities appertaining to this modest Recreation, shewing the severall tooles and implements which are to be imployed therein, and have also shewed the inward and mentall knowledge which should be harboured in his Breast that wil be an Angler; I will now proceed to speake of the Baites and inticements, which are the agents and effecters of our desires in this pastime, without which all other implements are vaine and uselesse: for what doth it availe to have all other things in perfection, when this, which is the strength and life of the rest, is either imperfect or defective?

To speake then generally of Baites, they are divided into three kinds, which are, Live baites, Dead-baites, & Baites living but in apparence onely. Your Live baits are wormes of all kindes, especially the Red-worme, the Maggot, the Bobbe, the Dor, browne Flyes, Frogs, Grasshoppers, Hornets, Wasps, Bees, Snails, small Roches, Bleakes, Goodgins or Loches. Your dead baites are pastes of all makings, young brood of Wasps dried or undried, the clotterd blood of Sheepe, Cheefe, Bramble-berries, Corne, Seedes, Cherries, and such like. And your Baites which seeme to Live, yet are Dead, are Flyes artificially made of all sorts and shapes, made of silke and Feathers about your hookes, which will serve for every severall Season through the

yeare, and being by your Line moved upon the water, seeme to be live Flies, which the fish with great greedinesse will catch up and devoure.

Seasons.

Now for the seasons in which these baites are most profitable, you shall understand that the red-worme will serve for small fish all the yeare long: the Maggot is good in July, the Bobbe and Dore in May, the brown Flies in June, Frogs in March, Grasshoppers in September, Hornets in July, Wasps and Bees in July, Snails in August, for the Roche, Bleake, or Gudgeon, they serve the Pike at any season: all Pastes are good in May, June, and July: dried Wasps in May: Sheepes-bloud and Cheese in Aprill: for Bramble-berries, Corne and Seeds, they are good at the fall of the Leafe. Lastly, for your dead Flies, which are most proper for the Trout or Grayling, you shall know that the Dun Fly is good in March, being the lesser, but the greater Dun Fly will serve the latter end of February: the Stone-fly is good in Aprill, the Red flye, and Yellow Flye in May; the Black Fly, the darke Yellow Flye, and the Morish Fly in June; the Tawny Fly part in May, and part of June, the Waspe Fly, and the Shell Fly in July, and the cloudy dark Fly in August.

Of Flies.

The making of
Flies.

Now for the making of these Flies, the cloudy dark Fly is made of black wooll, clipt from between a sheeps eares, and whipt about with black Silk, his wings of the under maile of the Mallard, and his head made black and futable, fixed upon a fine peece of Cork, and folded so cunningly about the Hook, that nothing may be perceived but the point and beard only. The Shell-Fly is made of fine greene Floxe, and the wings of the wings of a Pew-glead: the Waspe-Fly

is made of black wooll, lapt about with yellow filke, and the wings of the downe of a Buzzard: the Tawny Fly is made of tawny wooll, and the wings set one contrary to another, and made of the white downe of a Widgeon: the Morish Fly is made of fine Flocks, shorne from a free-se-gray russet, and the wings of a Drake: the bright yellow Fly is made of yellow wooll, and his wings of a red Cocks yellow maine: the sad yellow Fly is made of black wooll, with a twisted yellow filke, like a list, whipt down on either side, and the wings of the wings of a Buzzard, set on with black thread: the black Fly is made of blacke wooll, and lapt about with the herle of the Peacocks taile, his wings with the brown feathers of the Mallard, and some of his blew feathers on his head: the red Fly is made of red wooll, lapt about with black filke, and the wings of the maile of a Mallard, with some of the red feathers of a Capon: the Stone-Fly is made of black wooll made yellow under the wings, and under the taile with filke, and the wings of Drakes downe: the greater Dun-Fly is made of black wooll, and his wings of the dun feathers of a Drakes taile, the lesser Dun-Fly is made of dun wooll, and his wings of the maile of a Partridge.

Now for the shapes and proportions of these Flies, it is impossible to describe them without painting, therefore you shall take of these severall Flies alive, and laying them before you, try how neere your Art can come unto Nature by an equall shape and mizture of colours; and when you have made them, you may keep them in close boxes uncrushed, and they will serve you many yeeres.

Now for the preservation and keeping of your quick
baits

Preservation
of Baies.

baies (for longer then they are neate and sweet they are not good :) you shall understand, that they must not bee kept altogether, but every kind severall by it selfe, and nourished with such comforts as it delighteth in, when it is at liberty, or with such things as they breed in or upon when they are first taken. And first for the Red worine : when you take them, you shall put them in a bagge of red cloath, and chopping a handfull of Fennel, mixe it with halfe so much fresh mould beeing blacke and fertile, and they will both live and scower therein : There be some Anglers which put wet Mosse, both under and above them : Others there bee which put Parsly or sweet Marioram unto them, but the former way is the best, so you observe every night to renew their Earth, or once in two dayes to refresh them with a little new Oxe dung, & thus you may keep them two moneths without imperfection. For the great white Maggots, you shall mixe with them sheeps tallow, or little bits of a beasts Liver, the best way to scoure them, is to put them into a bagge of blanketting, with sand, and hang them where they may have the ayre of the fire, or other warmth, for the space of an houre or two. For Frogs and Grashoppers, you shall keep them in wet mosse, and long grasse, moistened every night with Water; and when you angle with them you shall cut off their legges by the knees, and the Grashoppers wings neere unto the body; for other wormes, as the Bobbe, Cadis-worme, Canker, and such like, you shall keepe them with the same things you find them upon; and for all live Flies you shall use them as you take them, onely the Waspe, the Horner, and Humble-Bee, which is without sting, you shall first drye them a little in a warme oven after the bread is drawne, and then dippe
all

all their heads into sheepes blood, and then dry them againe, and so keep them in a close boxe, and they will continue two or three moneths in all good perfection.

Now lastly, to speake of your made baites, which are Pastes, the most of them wil last the whole yeare, and as they be divers, so I will shew you how to compound every one of them in his true and perfect nature. First, to make Pastes that shall last the longest, you shall take Beane-flower, and those parts of the Conies leg which is called the Almond of the Coney, or if it bee of a fat young Whelpe, or a Cat, it is as good: and to these put a like a quantity of Virgin waxe, and sheepes suet, and then beate them together in a Morter, untill they be made one body, then with a little clarified Hony temper it before the fire, and so make it up in round bals, and it wil last all the yeare: and the use thereof is, when you Angle, to baite your hooke therewith, and not any Fish which swimmeth in fresh waters, but will greedily bite thereat.

Of making
pawes.

There is also another Paste which is of equal quality and use with this, and will last as long, and that is to take the Kidney-Tallow of a Sheep, and as much young Cheese, and beat them in a mortar till they be one body, then adde to them as much wheate-flower as will bring it to an exceeding stiffe paste, then kneade it before the fire, and allay the stiffencesse with life hony, and so make it up into bals.

The use of this Paste is like the former. Take the blood of a Sheepe, and of Hony like quantity, and beate them together with a lumpe of fresh cheese, then with the fine grated crummes of white bread, worke them into a stiffe paste, & so role it up in bals, and when you Angle do not baite your hooke therewith, but now
and

and then cast little pellets thereof into the Water, and it will intise the Fish to resort unto you, and to bite with great greedinesse.

There be others which take Bread crummes, and beat them in a Morter with ripe Cherries (the stones being taken out) untill it come to a stiffe Paste, and then knead it up into balls, and use it as you do that which was last recited: it is most approved and very excellent for all sorts of Fish in fresh waters.

Lastly, if you take the oyle of the *Aspray*, and *Coculus Indie*, and *Afferfidia* beaten, and mixt with as much life Honey, and then dissolve them in the oyle of *Polypody*, and so keepe it in a close glasse; then when you Angle, annoint your baite but with this confecti-on, and though the weather be never so unseasonable, or the Fish never so ill disposed to bite, yet bee sure you shall not lose your Labour, but take, when all men else faile of their purpose, for the secret hath bin rarely approved, and hitherto hath bin concealed with great secrecie. And thus much for baites and their uses.

CHAP. 14.

Of Angle for every severall kind of Fish, according to their natures.

Of the Good-
gin, Roch, and
Dace.

NOW to shew you how you shall Angle most properly for every severall Fish, with true Art, according to the nature of the Fish, I thinke it not amisse first to begin with the Goodgin, Roch, and Dace, which being Fishes of eager bit, most foolish, least afrightfull, and soonest deceived, are the first fittest preys for young Scholars, and such as are but Learners in the Art of Angling, for the easinesse of their gaining will not only settle an
unresolved

unresolved mind, but give unto ignorance both comfort and encouragement.

If then you will Angle for any of these small Fishes in great streames, it shall be meet to take a Boat, and finding the places of their haunt, which is commonly in sandy cleare waters, and where they run swiftest, there Angle for them with your smallest hooks, well headed, and smallest Lines, well Corkt. Your hooke would rather dragg than be an inch from the bottome, and your best baite is the Red-worme, Cod-worme, Maggot, clotted bloud of Sheep cut in little bits, or else the white Spawn or brood of Waspes: and ever as soone as you see the Corke stir, suddenly strike, for they will lye nibbling at the baite, and finding the hooke, forsake it. If you Angle for them in small Brooks, you shall stand under Bridges, at the falls of Mills, behind Poplars, or Oziers, or any where, where the streame runneth deep and swift: and ever note that when your bit failes, you remove your place, and seek out a new standing, and with all forget not, ever when you Angle for any of these fish, to cast in some of your Paste before your hook, for this will make your sport much more abundant: and although the Dace, out of their own nature, biteth high, and neere the top of the water, yet these baites and intisements will make him stoope, and be taken easily.

If you will Angle for the Carpe, you must have a strong Rod, and a strong Line, of at least seven or nine haire, and either mixt with greene or watched silke: Of the Carpes. your Cork must be large, long, and smooth: your Leads smooth and close, and fixt neere the hook, and the hook of almost a three penny compasse. He is very dainty to bite but at some especial hours, as very early in the morning, or very late at night, and therefore he must be very much

much entised with Past: his best bayts are the Mousse-worme, the redde-worme, or the Menow, for he seldom refuseth them. The Cadis-worme is good for him in *June*, and the Maggot, Blacke worme, or Grasshopper, in *July*, *August*, and *September*. If you make him Paste of soure Ale, white of eggs, and bread-crumbs, it will very much entise him: also I would ever wish you before you fish for the Carpe, to cast in a handfull of white Bread chippings into the Pond or River, for they will not onely intise him to your bayte, but also give you notice if you be neere his haunt, for you shall presently heare him smacke above the water, and then if you misse him, either your fortune or skill is not good.

Of the Chub,
Chevin, or
Trout.

If you will Angle for the Chub, Chevin, or Trout, all your Instruments must be strong and good: your rod darke and discoloured, your line strong, but small and short, your hooke of a twopenny compasse, and if you Angle with a Flye, then, nor Lead, nor Corke, nor Quill, if otherwise, then all of a handsome and futable proportion.

The best standing to take them is in close and concealed places, as behind Trees, Walles, or Arches of Bridges: their haunts are in cleere waters which runne upon Sand or Gravel, and they are in best season from *March* till *Michaëlmass*: if you Angle for them with dead Flyes, without Lead or Corke, I have shewed you in the former Chapter, the severall flyes for each severall month; but if you angle for them with other baites, then you must have both Corke and Lead, for he will bite neere the bottome, yet sometimes you may angle for him with a small Menow hang'd at your hooke by the neither parts, without Corke or Lead,
and

and so draw the bayte upon the top of the water, and both with it, and with every flye, strike rather before than after he byteth. If you Angle for him at the ground in *March*, *Aprill*, *May*, and *September*, the Mewnow is a good bayte, so is the stone-flye, Cadis-worme, Bobbe, red worme, ditch canker, young Frogges, the worme that breedeth on the Ozier-leave and the Dock-canker mixt together. In *June* Crickets and Dore-flyes are good: In *July* the Grasshopper is good, so is the humble Bee, dried Waspes or dried Hornets, or any of their young brood in the Combes. In *August* flying Pismires are good, so is the Colewort-worme, or the Maggot, and in *September* either Cherries, Mice before they have any hayre, or the great Sow-worme.

Inow will angle for the Eele, the best place is at Weares, Mill-ponds, bridges, hollow bankes, or any swift falling water: your Line strong, and not above too elles in length, and very heavily plumd, a good round Hooke, but no Corke, because you must not strike till the Eele plucke: neither must you by any meanes pull hastily, but holding your Line stiffe, with labour and patience tire him, lest that tearing his chaps, you lose him. The best bayte is the red worme, or little peeces of sheepes guts. Of the Eele.

The Flounder and Sewant are greedy byters, yet very crafty: for they will nibble and sucke at a bayte a good while before they swallow it, and if they perceive the hooke, they will flye from it: therefore to make them more hasty of the bayte, you must ever be moving your line, and seldome let it lye still. They lye most commonly in the deepest places of the River where the water is stillest, and runneth with least force: Of the Flounder & Sewant.

also

also they lye neare unto the banke, and delight must in the streame which is brackish, and mixt with the salt water. Your Line must be strong, and well plumbde neere to the hooke; and the best baite is the red Worme, and the young brood of Waspes.

Of the Gray-
ling or Barbel.

The Barbel or Grayling, which some call the Vmber, are very subtle and crafty fishes: Therefore you must be very careful that your baites be sweet and new, and when you angle for them, do in all things as you doe for the Trout, for they bite aloft in the Summer, and at the bottome in the Winter. Your lines must be extraordinarily strong, and your hookes of a three-penny Compasse, for they are fishes of waighy bodies, and when they are strooke, must have liberty to play, and tyre themselves, or else they wil indanger the breaking of your Rod, and therefore your Line must be of the longest size.

Of the Breame

The best season to angle for the Breame, is from the latter end of *February* till *September*, he is a very lusty strong fish, and therefore your tooles must be good, the baites in which he most delighteth, is in wormes of all sorts, Butterflies, greene flies, paste of bread crummes, or the brood of Waspes.

Of the Tench.

The Tench is a fish that ever loveth the bottome of Rivers, where the Oose or mudde is thickest; and is most fit to bee angled for in the height of Summer, for at other seasons he is not apt to bite, and all times he is very dainty.

The baites in which he delighteth most, is past that are very sweet, and the browner the better, especially if it be made with the blood of a sheep. At the great red worme also he will bite, and so much the sooner if you mixe them with this paste: the Maggot and dried waspe

Waspe hee will seldome refuse, chiefly being dipt in hony.

The Bleake, Ruffe, and Perch are fishes which bite neither high nor low, but for the most part in the midst of the water, therefore your Line must be very lightly plumbd, and farre from the hooke. The baites which most intice them, besides the red-worme, is the house-flye in the Summer, and the fat of Bacon in the winter: in *April* they wil bite well at the Bobbe-worme or Maggot, and in all other seasons they seldome refuse any worme or canker. Your line would bee small, and well armed from the hooke a handfull with small wyer, for the teeth of the Perch will else gnaw it a sunder.

Of the Blaké,
Ruffe, and
Perch.

The Pike is a fish of great strength and waight, in so much that you can hardly have a Line of haire to hold him, therefore your best Anglers use most commonly a Chaulke line, your Angle-rod also must have no small top, but be all of one piece and bignesse, and the Line made exceeding fast from slipping; Your hooke would be of the strongest wyer, white or yellow, and made double, the points turning two contrary wayes, and then armed with strong wyer a foote at least: his best baite is a little small Rock, Dace, or Menow, the hook being put in at the taile, and comming forth under the gills, and you must seldome or never let your baite lye still in the water, but draw it up and down, as though the fish did move in the water, and fled from the Pike, for this will make him more eager and hasty to bite: and having bit, you must be sure to tire him well before you take him up.

Of the Pike.

The yellow live Frogge is also an excellent baite for the Pike, for you must understand, that they naturally

Of Snickling
the Pyke.

rally delight not in any dead or unmooving food.

There bee some which take a great deale of delight and pleasure to Snickle or halter the Pike, which is good when Pikes are broke out of Ponds or Rivers, and come into little small Ditches or Rundels, as is oft to be seene in low-Countries. The way then to halter them is, first to finde the Pike where he lyeth (which in the heat of the day, you may easily doe) then take your Chaulke-line, and making a large running nooze thereof, put it gently into the water, about two feet before the nose of the Pike, then when you feele it touch the ground, cause one to goe behind the Pike, and with a poale to stirre him, then as he shooteth, meet him with your nooze, and so with a suddaine and quicke jerke throw him upon the Land. In this sport you must bee very ready, nimble, and quicke sighted, for if you give him the least time, he will escape you.

Of the Sal-
mon.

Now lastly, touching the angling for the Salmon, albe he is a fish which in truth is unfit for your Travaile, both because hee is too huge and cumbersome, as also in that he naturally delighteth to lie in the bottomes of great deepe Rivers, and as neere as may bee in the midst of the Channell, yet for as much as many men esteeme that best which is got with most difficulty, you shall understand that the baites in which hee most delighteth are those which serve for the Trout, as paste or flyes in the Summer, and Red-wormes, Bob-wormes, or Cankers on the water-dockes after *Michaelmas*. And thus much for the *Art of Angling*, and taking of each severall sort of fish which live in the fresh or brackish waters.

CHAP.

CHAP. 15.

*Of taking Fish without Angles, and first of
laying Hookes.*

THe laying of Hookes to take Fish in the night, is most commonly used for the Pike, in great broad Waters or Meeres, full of Sedge, Bulrushes, and other weeds, being very deepe, and muddy : Some do use to lay them for the Eele also, but you shall understand, that if you lay for the Pike, you must by no meanes let your hooke go to the bottome, but with a floate keepe it half a foot from the ground, but if you lay for Eeles, then let your Hookes be smaller, and sinke as low as they will.

Now for the matter of laying them, you shall baie the hookes as you did when you Angled, with Menow, Roch, Dace, Goodgen, or Millers-thumb : and being made fast to strong pack-thread, fasten also that pack-thread to a strong cord, which cord if it be three fadome in length may hold sixteene or twenty hookes. Then fixing two strong stakes into the Earth, fasten the two ends of the bigge cord to the two stakes, and so let it lye from Sunne set untill Sunne rise, and you shall never faile, but some of your Hookes will have taken. Only observe if you lay for Pikes, to lay in the midst of the water, neere unto the Sedge and Weedes : but if you lay for Eeles, lay very neere the Bankes, so there be no hollow or rotten trees growing thereon.

Now if you would with these laid hookes take any other sort of Fish, you shall lay such hookes as are fit for them : and before you depart away, cast into the

Water good store of pellets of those pastes which are proper for the fishes you would take : as the paste which is made of Branne, Sheepes blood, Garlick, and Lees of Wine, will take all sorts of small fish : that paste which is made of sheepes Liver, Guts, Hogges blood, Bread crummes, and *Opoponaxe*, will bring Perch, Tench, Carpe, or Breame unto your hookes, and that paste which is only made of Rue, Pine-apple kernels, Beane-meale and Hony, will bring the Salmon, the Trout, Chevin, or Barbells unto your hookes at all times of the yeare.

CHAP. 16.

Of preserving Fish from all sorts of devourers.

AMongst all the ravenous Creatures which Destroy Fish, there is none more greedy than the Otter, whose only food being thereon, hourly lyeth in waite to consume them : Therefore though some Fisher-men use to take him with a Weele made with a double tunnell, and called by the name of the Otter-weele, whose practice is so ordinary that every Fisher-man knows the use of the same; Yet for a more ready and easie way to destroy him, you shall as neere as you can find out his haunt, and the holes that are in the banke, and under the Roots of Trees where he lodgeth, and then take a great Eele, and slitting her back above her navel, put in three or foure lumps of *Arsnicke*, and then stitch up the skin againe, and so lay the Eele from the navell downward in the water, and from the navell upward out of the water : which when the Otter finds, it is his property to eate unto the navell and no further, which

which if he do it is certaine that it is the last he will eate.

Next to the Otter, the Herne is a great devourer of Fish, especially the small Frye, or that which lives in shallow places; therefore to destroy the Herne, you shall take a strong Barbel hook, and baite it, either with a Menow, or a peece of Doggs flesh: colour your Line greene, and lay it in a shallow place made fast to some stake, where the Herne may wade to the knee to take it, and as soone as he hath swallowed it, he shall no more go from the place.

Now, for as much as this Fowle is a great destruction unto the young Spawne or Frie of Fish, it shall be good for the preservation thereof, to stake down into the bottome of your Ponds good long Kids or Faggots of brush-wood, mixt with the boughes of greene Wilowes, or Oziers, in which the Fish casting their Spawn, it will be a defence for them, till they be able to flie into better safety.

Next to the Herne, the water-Rat is a great destroyer of young Fish, especially Trouts, Crevisses; or any that lye in holes in the bankes: the best way to destroy them is by hunting them with water-Doggs, which is a very good sport, and I have seene twenty kild in an after-noon: but some do use to take them with Hutches, or dead-fals, set in their haunts, but the former way is the better.

Next them the Sea-pye, and Sea-mew, is a great Devourer or consumer of Fish, and there is no better way to take him than by setting Rods drest with water Lime, and set shoring on the edge of the water, one gesse or row over another, in such places as the Water is most shallowest, and upon some tufts of greene Weeds lay a fish for a baite under the rods, at which

he can sooner strike but he is presently taken.

Next these the Kings Fisher (which is a small Greene Bird) is a great destroyer of Fish, and the way to take him is to marke his haunt where he commonly sitteth, which is ever in some bush next the River: then set a little Cradle of limes straws about his seat, and they will quickly take him, for he seldome changeth, but ever sitteth upon one bough.

Now to conclude, for the Cormorant, the Morehen, the Bald coot, or the Ospray, which destroy all kind of fish whatsoever, there is no way better to kill them then by watching their haunts, to shoot at them with a Fowling peece, and in the breeding time of the yeare to destroy their nests.

CHAP. 17.

Of the ordering of Ponds, for the nourishment of Fish.

THere is nothing that killeth Fish, or maketh them to prosper worse, than putrified and stinking water: neither is there any thing which corrupteth water sooner than Weeds, Sedge, and such filthinesse being suffered to grow therein; Therefore it shall be good once in three years for to cleanse your Ponds of all manner of Weeds and filth, which with a small Boat and a sharp hooke you may easily do at the fall of the Lease, for to cut them in the Spring doth encrease them. Now if your Ponds be much subject to mud, as for the most part those in clay Countries are, then it shall be good once in seven yeares to draine them, and lade them, and this would be done at the beginning of the Spring; and such Fish as you are willing and meane to preserve, you

you shall put into smaller pits or stewes, and the other dispose at your pleasure: then causing the mudd to be troden with mens feet as you tread Morter, you shall see all the Eeles rise aloft, which when you have taken also, then with Shouels and trough Spades cast out all the mud and filth (which is a singular compasse for Land) upon the Banke: then fodde the bottome of the Pond, and the sides with greene foddes, and fix them hard into the Earth with small stakes of Sallow, and these sides wil nourish the Fish exceedingly.

This done, if your Pond have not any fresh Spring in it, then you shall lade the water backe againe into it, and then draining your stewes, take out your store of Fish, and put them againe into your Pond, observing ever that there be two parts spawners, and put a third melters.

These pits and small stewes, how so ever others write to the contrary, are better for feeding of Fish; then breeding: therefore you shall ever keep them with fresh water, and placing so one by another, that you may empty them at pleasure, once in three moneths renew their bankes and bottomes with fresh fods of the fruite, fullestt graspe: also, you shall put into them good store of small Frye of Roch, Dace, Menow, Loche, and Miller-thumbes, for the bigger Fish will feede thereon: also the inward Garbadge and bloud of Sheepe, Calves, Hogges, and such like, which will fat Fish suddainely, for you must know that as the Fish in Rivers have, by vertue of the current, ever something brought to them to feed on, so the Fish which is imprisoned in ponds and wants that helpe, must either be relieved, or else perish, and there is nothing better to feed them with, then that before spoken, or else Brewers graines, chippings, curds,

Curds, and any Corne whatsoever, throwne into the Ponds Morning and Evening.

CHAP. 18.

Of the best Water-Lime.

THe best water-Lime that can be made, and which will most surely hold within the water, is to take a pound of the strongest Bird-lime, and wash it in nine running waters, untill there be no hardnesse in it, and then beat out the water cleane, and drie it. Which done put it into an earthen pot, and adde thereto as much Capons grease as will make it runne, two Spoonefull of strong Vinegar, a very little Lampe Oyle, and Venice Turpentine, and boile them all gently together upon a soft fire, stirring it continually. Then take it from the fire, and let it coole, then at any time when you meane to use it, warme it, and then annoynt either your Rods, Bushes, Strawes, or Lines, and no water will take away the strength.



OF



Of the fighting Cock.

CHAP. 19.

Of the Choyce, Ordering, Breeding, and Dyeting of the fighting-Cock for Battell.



Ince there is no pleasure more Noble, Delightsome, or void of couzenage and deceit them this pleasure of Cocking is; and since many of the best wifdomes of our Nation have been pleased to participate with the delights therein, I thinke it not amisse, as well

for the instruction of those which are unexperienced, as fortifying of them which have some Knowledge therein, to declare in a few Lines the *Election, Breeding, and Secrets* of dyeting the fighting Cocke, which having been hitherto concealed and unwritten of, is (for our pleasure sake) as worthy a generall knowledge as any delight whatsoever.

To speake then first of the choise of the fighting Cock, you shall understand that the best Characters you can observe in him, is the *shape, Colour, Courage, and sharp-beele* : for his shape the middle and different size

The choyce of the Cock for Battell.

is ever accounted best, because they be ever most matchable, strong nimble, and ready for your pleasure, whereas the huge Cocke (which we call the turne-Pocke) is ever hard to finde his equall, besides he is lubberly, and affording small pleasure in his battle: and so the exceeding little Cock is as hard to match, and is commonly weake and tedious in his manner of fighting. Hee would be of a proud and upright shape, with a small head, like unto a Spar hawke, a quicke large eye, and a strong back, crookt and bigge at the setting on, and in colour futable to the plume of his Feathers, as blacke yellow, or reddish. The beame of his legge would be very strong, and according to his Plume, blew, gray, or yellow: his spurres long, rough, and sharpe, a little bending and looking inward.

For his colour, the gray pyle, the yellow pyle, or the red with the black brest, is esteemed the best: the pide is not so good, and the white and dun are the worst. If he be red about the head, like skarlet, it is a signe of lust, strength, and courage, but if hee bee pale it is a signe of sicknesse and faintnesse.

For his courage, you shall observe it in his walke, by his treading, and the pride of his going, and in his pen, by his oft crowing. For the sharpnesse of his heele, or as Cockmasters call it, the narrow heele, it is onely seene in his fighting, for that Cock is sayd to be sharpe heeld, or narrow heeld, which every time he riseth hitteth, and draweth bloud of his aduersary, guilding (as they tearme it) his spurres in bloud, and threatning at every blow an end of that battle.

And these Cockes are surely of great estimation, for the best Cocke-masters are of opinion, that a sharpe heeld Cocke, though hee be a little false, is much better

ter then the truest Cocke which hath a dull heele, and bitterh seldome, for though the one fight long yet hee seldom wounds, and the other though he wil not indure the uttermost hewing, yet he makes a very suddaine and quicke dispatch of his businesse, for every blow put his aduerfay in danger.

But that Cocke which is both assuredly hard, and also very sharpe heeld, he is to be esteemed, and is of the most account above all other, and therefore in your generall Election chuse him which is of a strong shape, good colour, true valour, and of a most sharpe and ready heele.

Now for the breeding of these Cocks for the battle, it is much different from those of the dunghill, for they are like Birds of prey, in which the female is ever to be preferred and esteemed before the Male, and so in the breed of these Birds, you must be sure that your Henne be right, that is to say, she must be of a right plume, as gray, griffell, speckt, or yellowish, black or brown is not amittie: she must be kindly unto her yong, of large body, well poaked behind for large Egges, and well tufted on the crowne, which shewes courage: if she have weapons she is better, but for her valour it must be excellent, for if there bee any sport of cowardise in her, the chickens cannot be true.

The breeding
of the battle
Cock.

And it is a note amongst the best breeders, that the perfect Henne from a Dunghill-cock, will bring a good chicken, but the best Cock from a Dunghill Henne can never get a good Bird: and I have knowne in mine own Experience, that the two famousst Cokes that ever fought in these dayes, the one called *Noble*, the other *Griffell*, begot on many ill Hennes very badde Cocks, but the most famous Henne *Iinkes*, never brought
foorth

forth ill Bird, how bad soever her Cocke were.

Having then unto perfect Cockes got perfect Hennes, (for that is the best breeding) you shall know that the best season of the yeare to breed in, is from the increase of the Moone in *February*, to the increase of the Moone in *March*, for one *March* Bird is ever better worth then three at any other season. You shall place her Penne in which shee sitteth, to stand warme, and to make her bedde of soft and sweete straw, for they be much tenderer then the Dunghils are, neyther shall you suffer any other Fowle to come in her view where shee sits, for it will move her to displeasure, and make her to endanger her Egges.

You shall also observe in her sitting, whether shee be busie to turne her Egges (which is a good signe in a Henne) and if shee be slacke you shall helpe her at such times as shee riseth from her nest, and ever be sure that when she commeth from her nest, to have meate and water ready for her, lest being forced to seeke her food, she suffer her Egges to coole too much: also, you shall have Sand, Gravell, and fine sifted ashes in the roome where she sitteth, in which shee may bathe and trim her selfe, at her pleasure.

After one and twenty dayes is the time of their hatching, and if when they are new batched, shee doe neglect to cover and keepe the first warme till the rest be disclosed, you shall observe her, and take those that are first opened, and lapping them in warme Wooll, lay them within the ayre of the fire till the rest be hatcht, and then put them all under her, and keeping both the Henne and them exceeding warme, for they be so tender that the least cold will kill them, and suffer neither
them

them nor the Henne to go abroad into the ayre till they be a moneth old : and let them have store of food, as Oate-meale, Cheese parings, Chilter wheate, and such like, and a large room to walk in, the floore being board, for the earth floore is too moyst, and the plaster-floore too cold.

After they are a moneth old, you shall let them walke in some grasse court, or greene place, where they may have store of Wormes, but by all meanes be sure there be no stinking puddles of water in it, no sinkes, nor filthy Channells, for it is the greatest poyson that can be to Birds of this nature, and breedeth those Diseases which are most mortall : if every morning before they goe forth, you perfume them and their roome with Rosemary, or Peny-royall burnt, it is a great preservation against all those infirmities, or to choppe Leeke blades amongst their Meate is very good also.

In this sort you shall nourish them till you may distinguish the Cocke-Chicken from the Henne, and then seeing their Combes or Wattels but appeare, you shall cut them away, and so annoint the sore with sweete Butter till it bee whole. This will make them have fine, small, slender, and smooth heads, whereas to suffer the Combe to grow to his bignesse, and then cut it away, it will make him have a gouty thicke head, with great lumps : neither is the Fluxe of bloud wholesome, for the least losse of bloud in a feathered foule, is exceeding mortall, and very dangerous.

You shall suffer your Cocke-Chickens to goe together with their Hennes till they beginne to fight, and pecke one at another, but then you shall separate them,
and

and dis pierce them into severall walkes, and that walke is the best for a fighting Cocke which is farthest from resort, as at Winde-milles or Water-milles, Grange-houses, and such like, where hee may live with his Hennes without the offence or company of other Cocks, Lodges in Parkes are also good, and so are Conie-warrens, onely they are a little too much haunted with vermine, and that is dangerous, let the feeding place for your Cockes be upon soft dry ground, or upon boardes, for to feede upon paved Earth, or on Plaster floares will make their beakes weake, bluat, and not apt to hold fast. Any white Corne is good foode for a Cocke in his walke, and so are tostes or crusts of breade steeped in drinke, or mans Urine, for it will both scowre and coole them inwardly.

If your Chickens beginne to crow (not being six moneths old) cleare and lowde, or at unseasonable times, doe not esteeme them, for it is an apparant signe of cowardise and falshood : for the true Cocke is very long before he get his voyce, and when he hath it, he observes his houres with the best judgement. Unto your fighting Cock three Hennes are sufficient, five are with the most, for they are so hotte of nature and will treade so much, that they soone consume their naturall strength.

A Cocke would not be put to the battell before he be two yeeres old, at which time he is perfect and compleate in every member, for to suffer him to fight when his spurres are but warts, you may well know his courage, but never his goodnesse.

You must also have an especiall care to the Perch whereon your Cocke sitteth when hee rousteth,
for

for if it be too small in the grype, or crooked, or so ill placed that he cannot sit but he must straddle with his legges, any of these faults will make him uneven heeld, and whatsoever he was naturally, yet by this accident he will never be good striker, for the making of the Perch either maketh or marreth the Cock, therefore to prevent this fault, the best way is to have in your Roust a row of little Perches, not above seven or eight inches in length, and not a foot from the ground, so that your Cock may with ease go up to them, and being set, must of force have his leggs stand neere together, it is a rule that he which is a close siter is ever a narrow striker.

Let the footstoole of the Perch be round and smooth, and about the bignesse of a mans arme. Yet for your better knowledge, because words cannot so well expresse these quantities, it shall not be amisse for you to go to some famous Cock-masters house and view the Perches which are within his feeding Pennes, and according to those proportions frame your own, for the Perch is the making and spoiling of any Cock whatsoever.

Againe, you must be carefull, that when your Cock doth leape from his Perch, that the ground be soft whereon he lighteth, for if it be hard or rough, it will make your Cocke grow gowty, and put forth knots upon his feet.

Now lastly, for the dyeting and ordering of a Cock for a battell, which is a secret yet never divulged, but kept close in the breasts of some few, and for as much as in it only consisteth all the ground and substance of the pleasure, the best Cock undyeted, not being able to encounter with the worst Cock that is dyeted,

The dyeting
of Cockes for
the battell.

Of taking up
Cockes.

you shall understand, that the time to take up your Cocks is at the latter end of *August* (for from that time till the latter end of *May* Cocking is in request) and having viewed them well, and see that they are found, hard feathered, and full summed, you shall put them into severall Pens, the models whereof you may behold in every Cock-masters or Inne-keepers house, having a moving Perch in it, to set at which corner of the Pen you please.

Of the Cock
Pen.

This Pen should be made of very close boards, well joyned together all but the fore-front, which would be made open like a Grate, one Barre two inches distant from another, and before the Grate two large Troughes of soft wood, one for his meat, the other for his water. The doore of the Grate should be made to lift up and down, of such largeness that you may with ease put your Cock in and out, and dayly cleanse the Pen to keep it sweet and wholesome.

The Pen would be at least three foot in height, and two foot in square every way, and many of them may be joyned in one front, according to the bignesse of the roome, in which they are built: and also one above another, only with over-shadowing boards, so that one Cock may not see another.

Of his dyet.

When your Cock, as aforesaid, is put up into his Pen, you shall for three or foure daies feed him only with old Manchet, the crust pared away, and cut into little square bits, and you shall give him to the quantity of a good handfull at a time, and you shall feed him three times in the day, that is to say, at Sun rise, at high noone, and at Sun set. You shall ever let him have before him the finest, coldest, and sweetest Spring-Water that you can get.

After

After he hath been thus fed foure daies, and his Corn, Wormes, Gravel, and other course feeding gone from him, in the Morning take him out of the Pen, and another Cock also, and putting a paire of Hots upon each of their heeles, which Hots are soft bumbasted rouds of Leather, covering their Spurres, so that they cannot hurt or bruise one another, and so setting them down on the greene grasse, let them fight and buffet one another a good space, as long as in their teaching they do not wound or draw bloud one upon another; and this is called the sparring of Cokes: it heateth and chafeth their bodies, and it breaketh the fat and glut, which is within them, and maketh it apt to cleanse and come away.

Of Sparring
of Cocks.

After your Cocks have sparred sufficiently, and that you see them pant and grow weary, you shall take them up, and taking off their Hots, you must have deepe straw baskets made for the purpose, with sweet soft straw to the middle, and then put in your Cock, cover him with sweet straw up to the top, and then lay on the lid close, and there let your Cock stowe and sweat till the Evening.

But yet before you put him into the stowe, you shall take Butter and Rosemary finely chopt, and white Sugar candy, all mixt together, and give him a lump thereof, as much as your thumbe, and then let him sweat, for the nature of this scowring is to bring away his grease, and to breed breath and strength. You may in time of necessity for want of these straw baskets stow your Cock in a Cock-bagge, by laying straw both under and above him, but it is not so good, because the Ayre hath more power to passe thorow it.

After

Of the best
dyet bread.

After foure of the clocke in the Evening, you may take your Cocke out of the stove, and licking his head and eyes all over with your tongue, put him into his Penne, and then taking a good handfull of bread, small cut, put it into his trough, and then pissing into the trough, also give it him to eate, so as he may take his bread out of the warme urine, for this will make his scouring worke, and cleanse both his head and body wonderfully.

Now you shall understand, that the bread which you shall give him at this time, and at all other times during his dyetting, shall not be Manchet, but a speciall bread made for the purpose, in this manner: you shall take of wheat-meale halfe a Pecke, and of fine oate-meale-flower as much, and mixing them together knead them into a stiffe paste, with Ale, the white of a dozen Eggs, and half a pound of Butter, and having wrought the dowe exceeding well, make it into broad thinne cakes, and being three or foure daies old, and the blisterings of the outside cut away, cut it into little square bits, and give it the Cock.

There be some others that in this Bread will mixe Lycoras, Annis-seeds, and other hot Spices, and will also in the Cock water steepe slices of Lycoras, but it is not commendable, for it is both unnaturall and unwholesome, and maketh a Cock so hot at the heart, that when he comes to the latter end of a battle, he is suffocated and overcome with his own heat: therefore I advise all men of judgement, to take that for the best dyet which is most naturall, and least contrary unto the Fowles ordinary feeding.

But to returne to my former Discourse, after you have fed your Cock thus for all night, you shall the
next

next day let him rest, and onely give him his ordinary feedings of Bread and Warer, then the next day (which is the second day after his sparring) you shall take him into a fayre even greene Close, and there setting him down, having some Dunghill-Cocke in your armes, you shall shew it him and so run from him, and entice him to follow you, and so chase up and downe halfe an houre at the least, suffering him now and then to have a stroke at the Dunghill-cock. And when you see that he is well heated and panteth, you shall take him up and beare him into your Cock-house, and there first give him this scouring: Take of Butter, which hath no salt, halfe a pound, and beate it in a Morter with the leaves of Herb of Grace, Isop, and Rosemary, till the Herbes cannot bee perceived, and that the Butter is brought to a greene Salve, and of this give the Cock a roule or two, as big as your thumbe, and then stove him in the basket, as is before said, till Evening, and then feed as was formerly declared.

The next day you shall let him rest and feede, and the next day after you shall sparre him againe, and thus every other day for the first fortnight, you shall either sparre or chase your Cock, which are the most naturallest and kindliest heates that you can give him, and after every heate you shall give him a scouring: for this will breake and cleanse from him all grease, glut, and filthinesse, which lying in his body, makes him purfie, faint, and not able to stand out the latter end of a battell.

Having fedde your Cocke thus the first fortnight, the second fortnight you shall also feede him in the same manner, and with the same food, but you shall

not sparre him, or give him heates above twice in a weeke at the most, in so much that thrice or foure times in the fortnight will be sufficient, and each time you shall stove and scoure him, according to the nature of his heats, that is to say, if you heate him much you shall stove him long, and give him of your scouring the greater quantity: if you finde that he is in good breath, and needeth but slight heates, then you shall stove him the lesse while, and give him the lesse of the scowring.

Now to the third fortnight, which maketh up the six weekes compleat, (being a time sufficient to prepare a Cocke for his battell) you shall feede him as a foresaid, but you shall not sparre him at all, for feare of making his head tender or sore, neither give him any violent exercise, but onely twice or thrice in the fortnight, moderately, let him run and chase up and downe, to maintaine his winde, and now and then cuffe a Cock, which you shall holde to him in your hands, which done, you shall give him his scouring well rould in the poudre of Sugar-candy, white or browne, but browne is the better, for the Cocke then being come to perfect breath, and having no filth in his body for the scouring to worke on, it will worke and cause operation upon the vitall parts, and make the Cock sick, which the Sugar-candy will prevent, and strengthen nature against the medicine.

After the end of six weekes feeding, finding your cock in lust and breath, you may fight him at your pleasure, observing that he have at least three dayes rest before he fight, and well emptied of his meat before you bring him into the Pit.

Now

Now when you bring him into the Pit to fight, you must have an especial care to the matching of him, The matching of Cockes. for in that Art consisteth the greatest glory of the Cocke-master, for what availeth it to feede never so well, if in the matching you give that advantage which overthroweth your former labour? Therefore in your matching there are two things to be considered: that is, the length of Cocks, and the strength of Cocks: for if your adversary-Cocke be too long, yours shall hardly catch his head, and then hee can never indanger eye or life: and if he be the stronger, he will overbeare your Cock, and not suffer him to rise, and strike with any advantage: therefore for the knowledge of these two rules, though experience be the best Tutor, yet the first, which is length, you shall judge by your eye, when you gripe the Cocke about the waste, and make him shut out his legs, in which posture you shall see the utmost of his hight, and so compare them in your judgment. Now for his strength, which is known by the thicknesse of his body, for that Cock is ever helde the strongest which is largest in the garth, you shall know it by the measure of your hands, gryping the Cocke about from the points of your great fingers, to the joynts of your thumbes, and either of these advantages by no meanes give to your adversary, but if you doubt losse in the one, yet bee sure to gaine in the other: for the weake long Cock will rise at more ease, and the short strong Cocke will give the surer blow, so that because all Cocks are not cast into a mould, there may be a reconciliation of the advantages, yet by all meanes give as little as you can.

When your Cock is equally matcht, you shall thus

Of preparing
cockes to the
fight.

prepare him to the fight, first with a paire of fine Cocke sheares you shall cut all his Maine off, close unto his neck, even from his head unto the setting on of his shoulders, then you shall clip off all the Feathers from his tayle close unro his Rumpe: where, the more skarlet that you see his Rumpe, in the better estate of body the Cock is. Then you shall take his wings, and spreading them foorth by the length of the first feather of his wing, clip the rest slope wise with sharpe points, that in his rising he may therewith indanger the eyes of his adversary: then with a sharp Knife you shall scrape smooth, and sharpen his Beak, then shall you smooth and sharpen his Spurs.

The ordering of
cockes after
battell, and the
curing them.

Lastly, you shall see that there be no feathers about the crowne of his Head for his Foe to take hold on, and then with your spitule moistning his head all over, turne him into the Pit to prove his fortune. When the battle is ended the first thing you do, you shall search his wounds, and as many as you can finde, you shall with your mouth sucke the bloud out of them, then wash them very well with warme Urine, to keepe them from Ranckling, and then presently give him a roule or two of your best scouring, and so stowe him up as hot as you can, both with sweet straw and blanketting in a close Basket for all that night, then in the morning take him forth, and if his head be much sweld, you shall suck his Wounds againe, and bathe them with warme Urine, then having in a fine bagge the powder of the Herbe *Robert*, well dryed, and finely seift, pounce all the sore places therewith, and then give the Cock a good handfull of Bread to eate out of Warne Urine, and so put him into the stowe againe, in the same manner

manner as before mentioned, and by no meanes let him feele the ayre untill all the swelling be gone, but twice a day suck his wounds, dresse him, and feede him, as is aforesaid.

But if hee have received any hurt, or blemish in his Eye, then you shall take a leafe or two of right ground Ivy, not that which runneth along the ground, and is of the ignorant so called, but that which growes in little tufts in the bottome of hedges, and is a little rough leafe, and having chewd it very well in your mouth, and suckt out the jayce, spit it into the eye of the Cock, and it will not only cure it of any wound, or any blow in the Eye, where the sight is not pierced, but also defend it from the breeding of Filmes, Hawes, Warts, or any such other infirmities, which quite destroy the sight : Observing that you doe not cease to dresse the Eye therewith so long as you shall perceive any blemish therein.

Now if your Cocke have in his sight veined himselfe eyther by narrow striking, or other crosse blow, you shall find out the wound, and presently bind thereunto the fine soft doune of a Hare, and it will both staunch it and cure it.

For any other casuall infirmity or sicknesse which shall happen unto Cockes, looke in the former Booke called *Cheape and Good*, and you shall finde them set downe at large, onely I will give you this one small remembrance, that after you have put forth your wounded Cockes to their walkes, and come to visite them a moneth or two after, if you finde about their heads any swollen bunches, hard, and blackish at one end, you shall know that in such bunches are unsound

chores : Therefore presently with your Knife you shall open the same, and crush out the chores with your thumbs, then with your mouth suck out all the corruption, and then fill the holes full of fresh Butter, and it will cure them. And thus much for the nature of the Cock, and how to keepe him for his best use.

The end of the first Booke.



